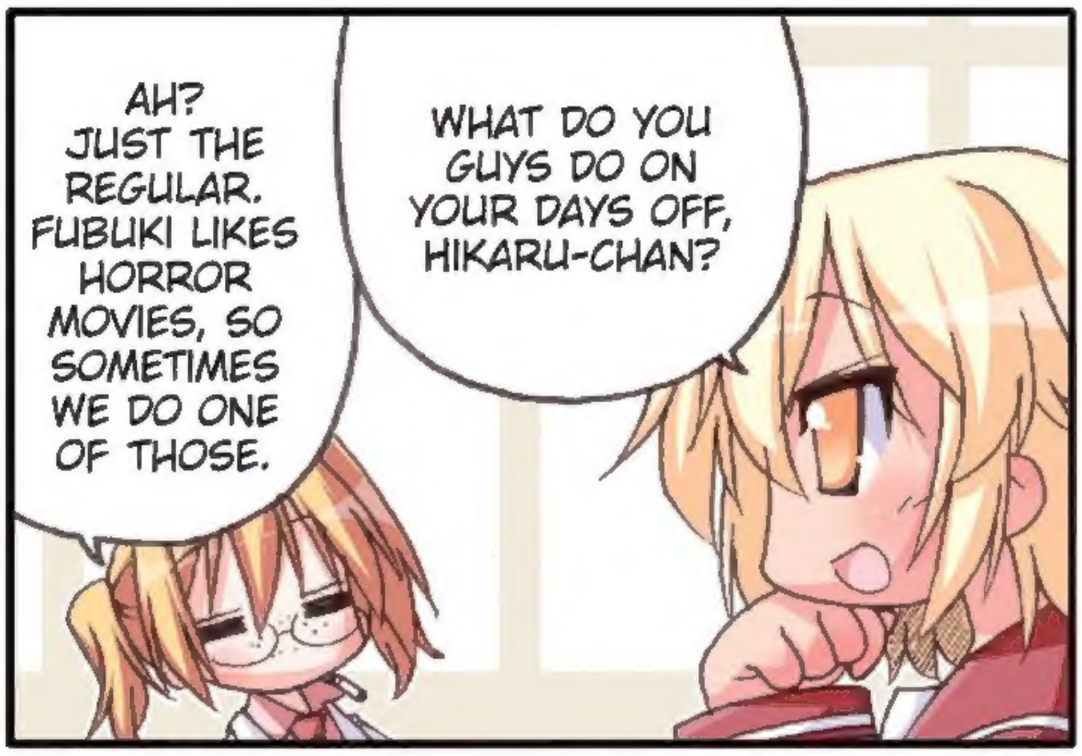
VIZ SELECT

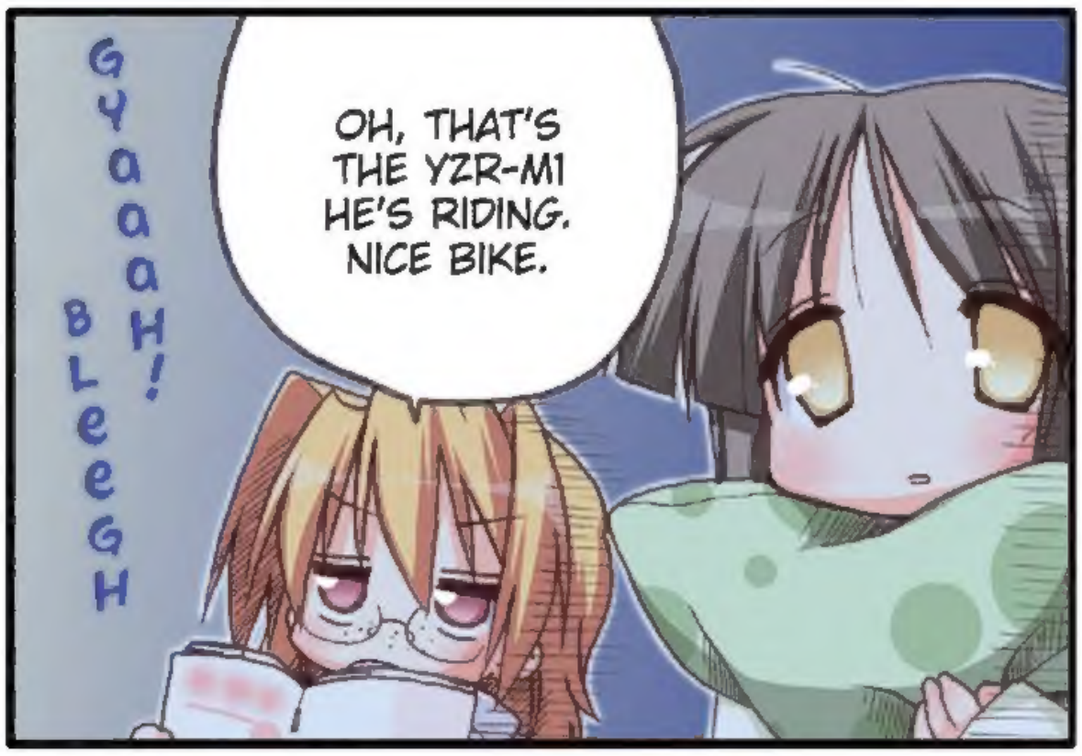
Manga by Kagami Yoshimizu

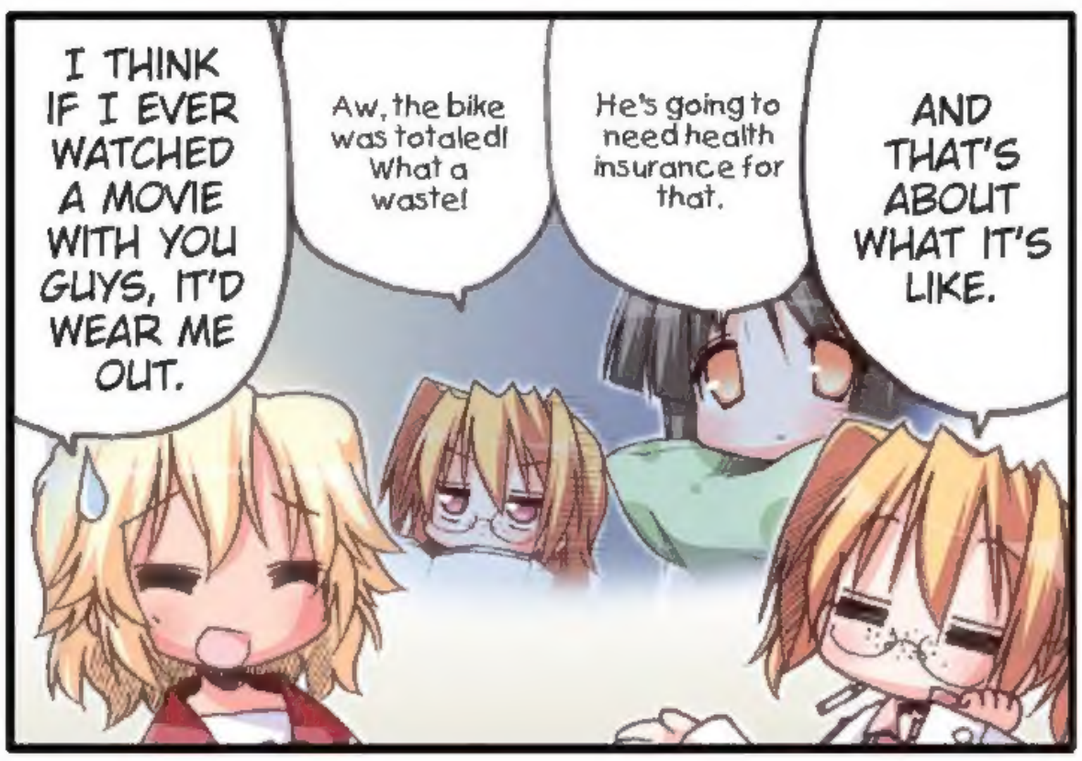
6

Lucky☆Star

Lucky☆Star 6


AH? JUST THE REGULAR. FUBUKI LIKES HORROR MOVIES, SO SOMETIMES WE DO ONE OF THOSE.
WHAT DO YOU GUYS DO ON YOUR DAYS OFF, HIKARU-CHAN?



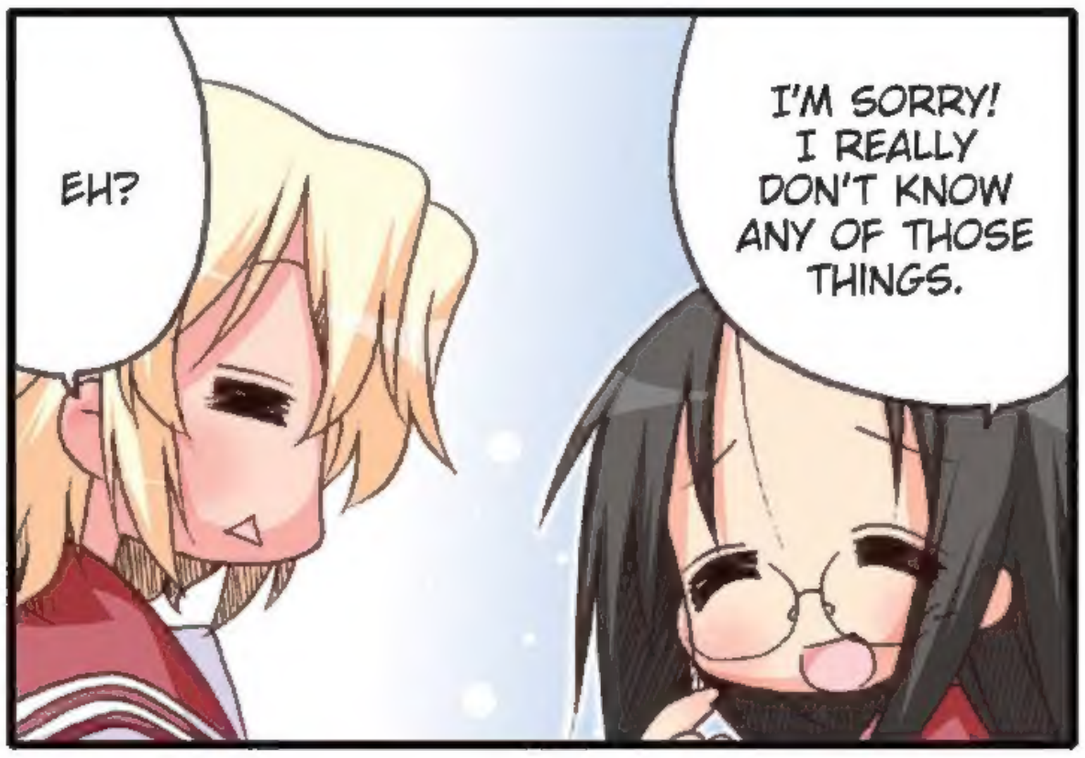

I THINK IF I EVER WATCHED A MOVIE WITH YOU GUYS, IT'D WEAR ME OUT.
Aw, the bike was totaled! What a waste!
He's going to need health insurance for that.
AND THAT'S ABOUT WHAT IT'S LIKE.

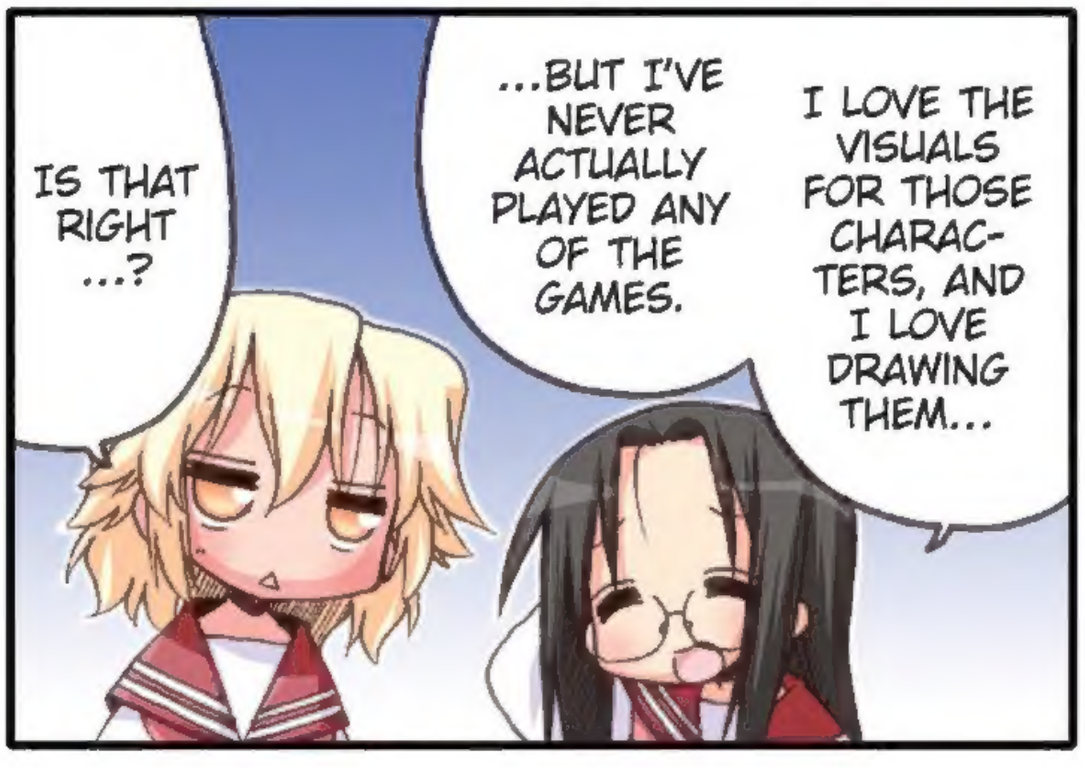
Lucky☆Star

episode 150
different ways of doing things

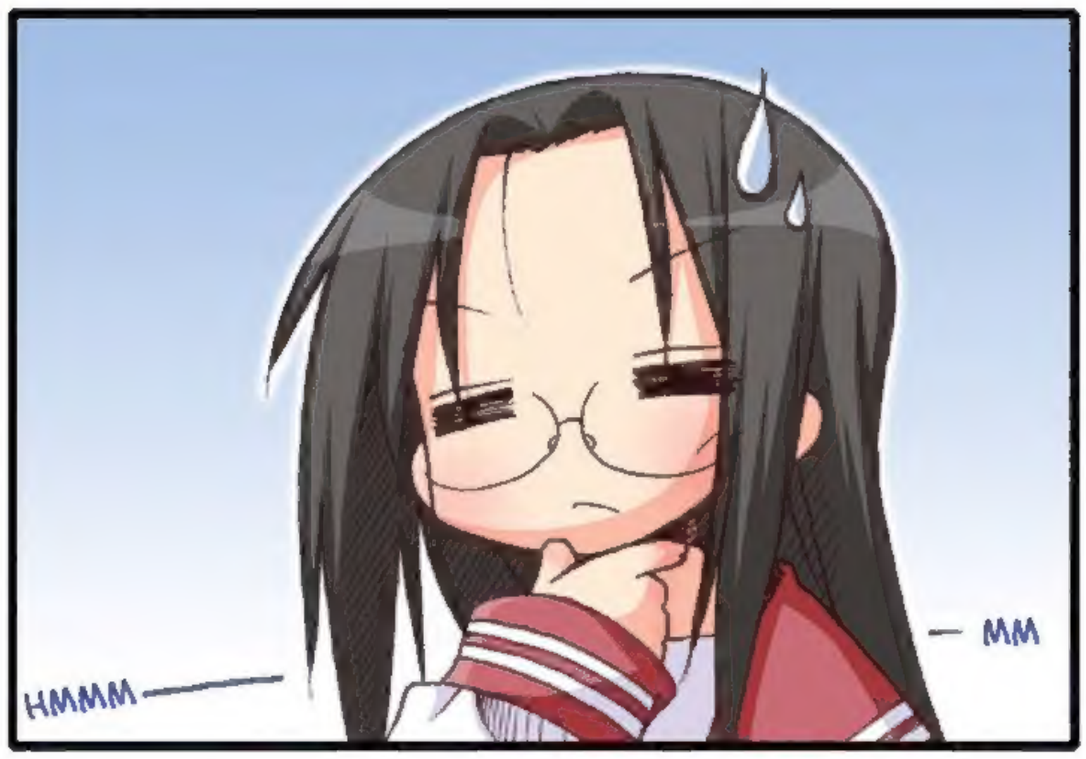
● Comptiq, November 2007 issue

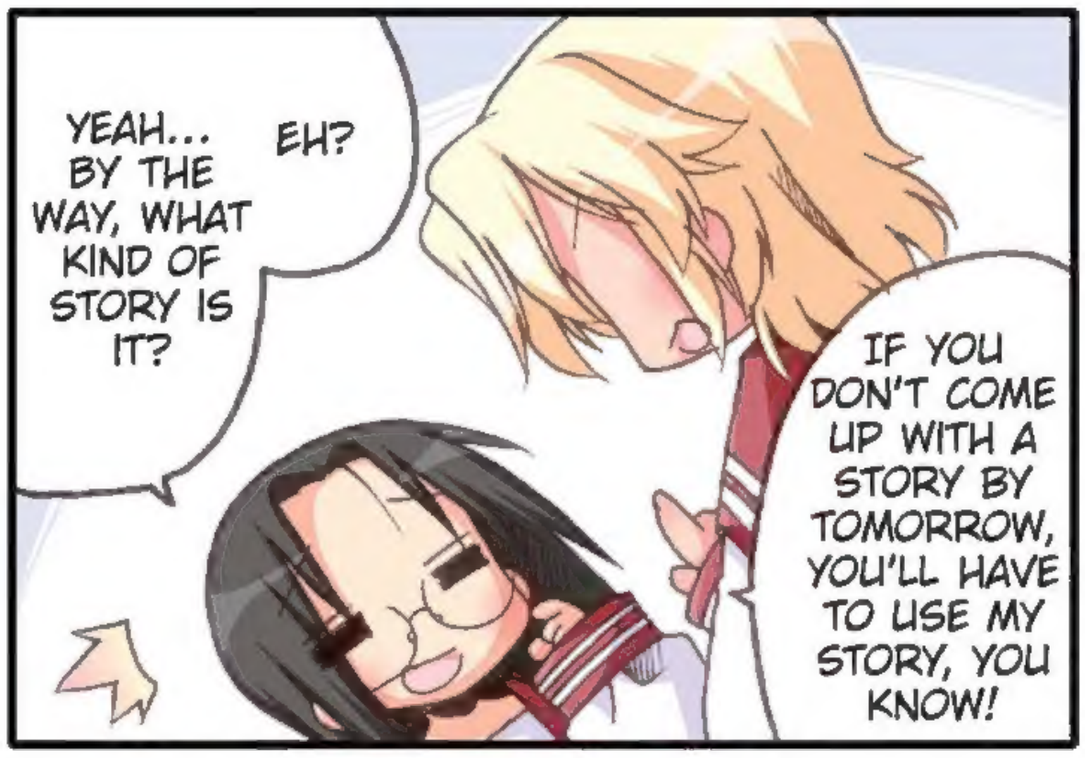
love vector

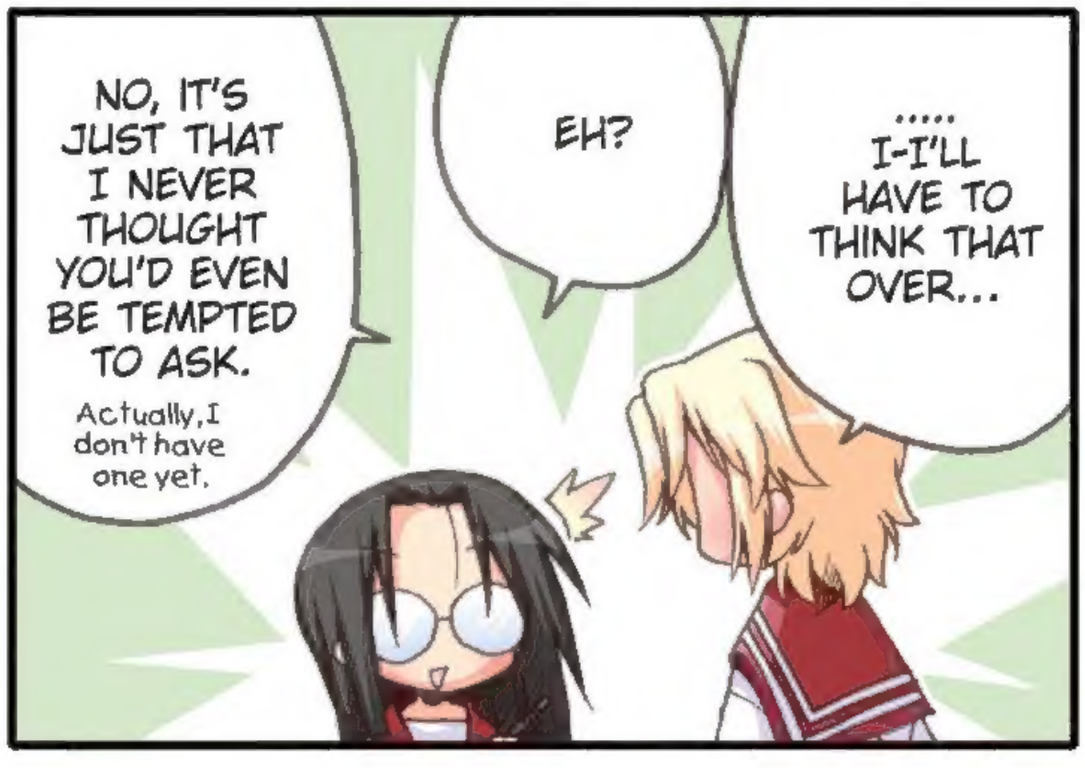



IS THAT RIGHT ...?
...BUT I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY PLAYED ANY OF THE GAMES.
I LOVE THE VISUALS FOR THOSE CHARAC-TERS, AND I LOVE DRAWING THEM...

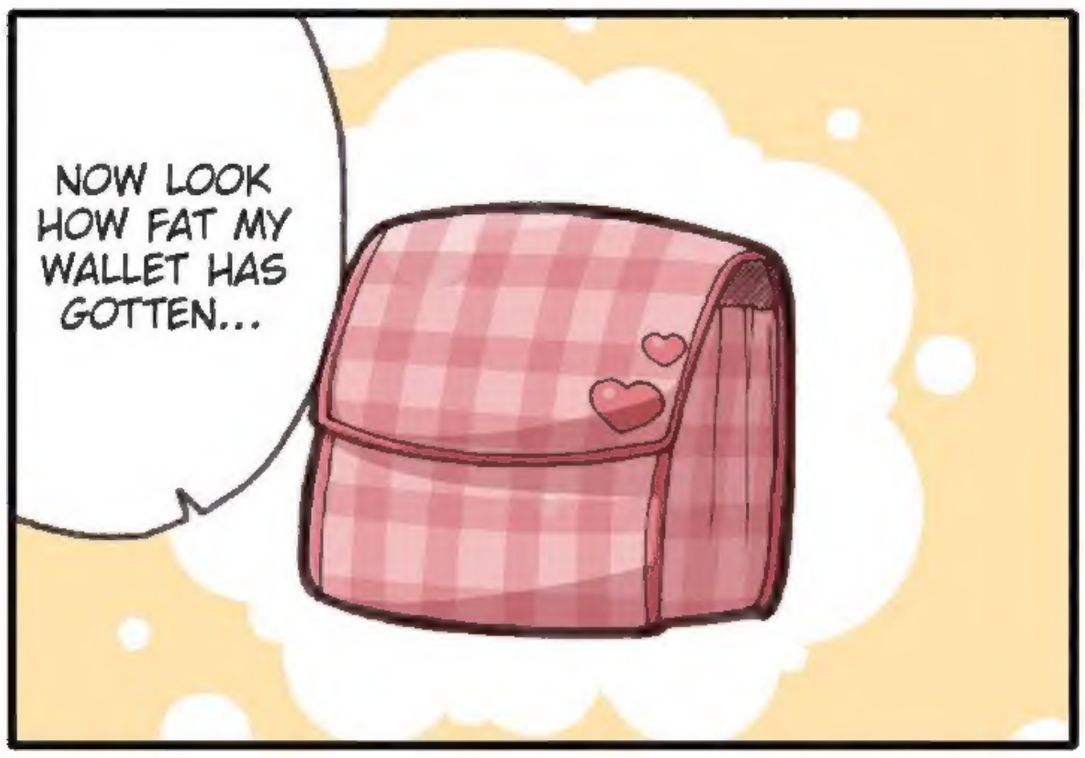
feint

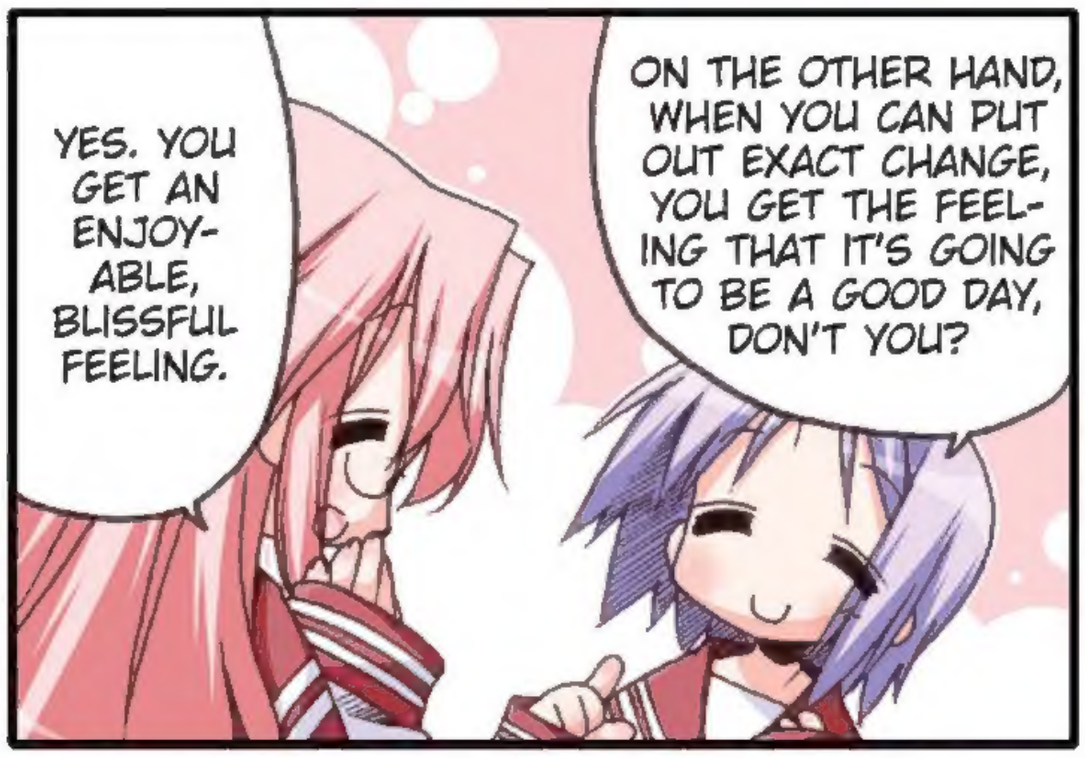






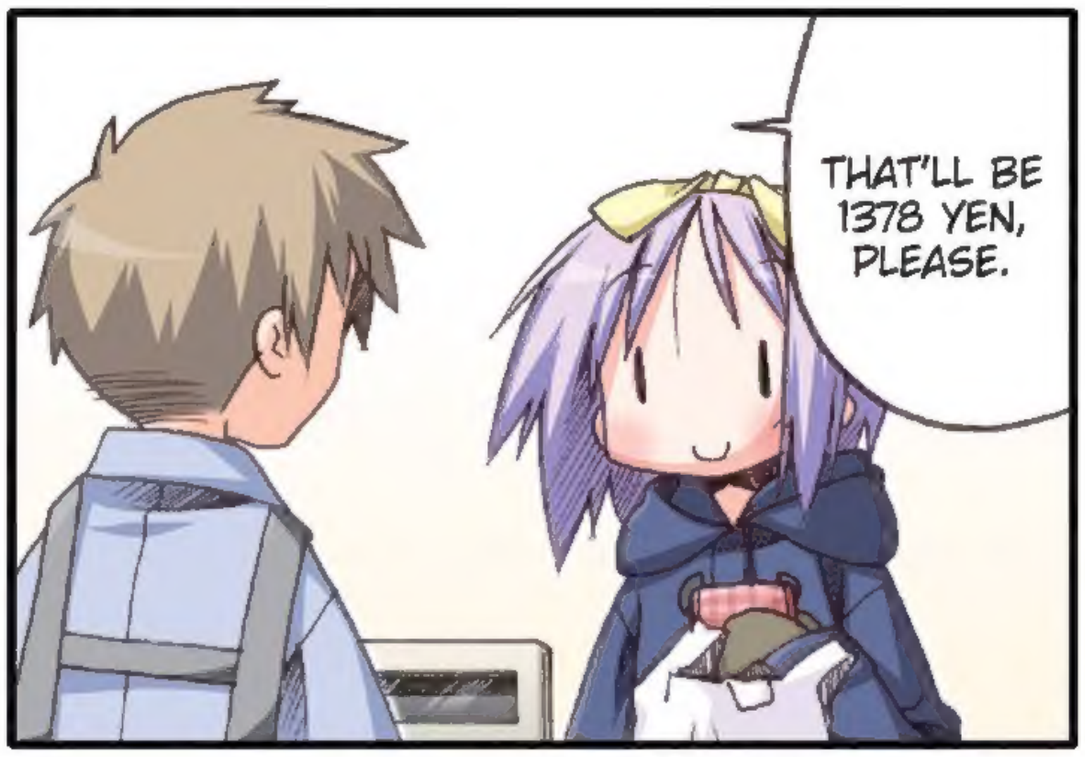
saving and spending

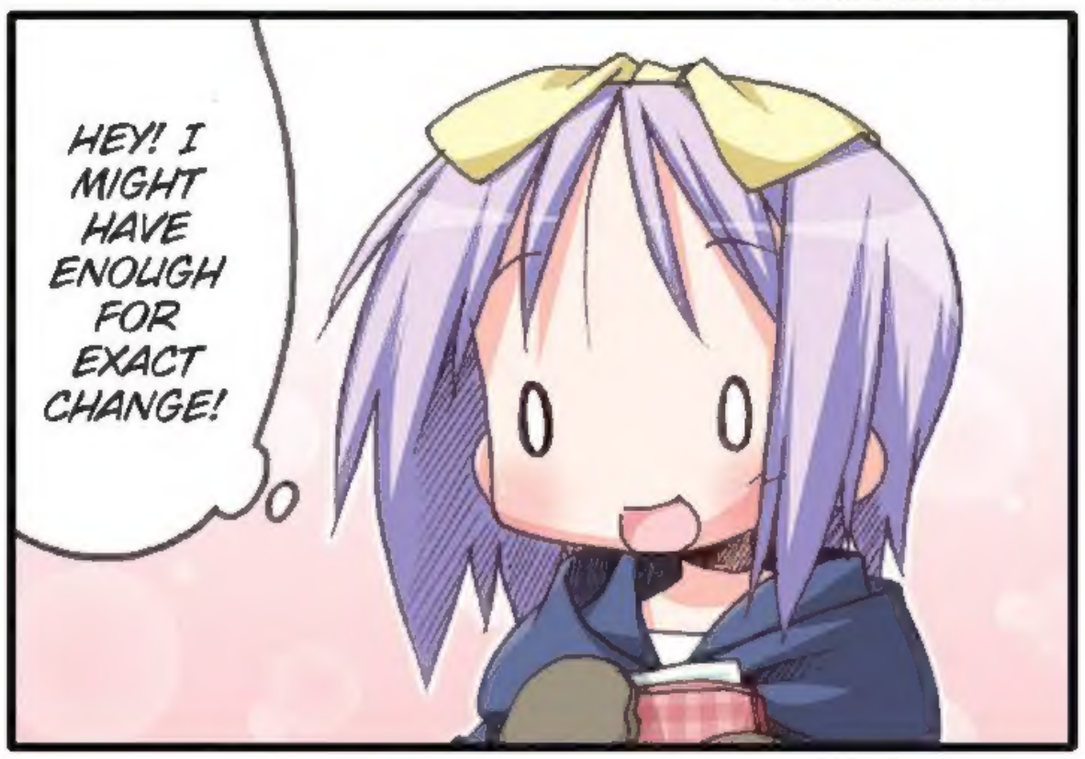


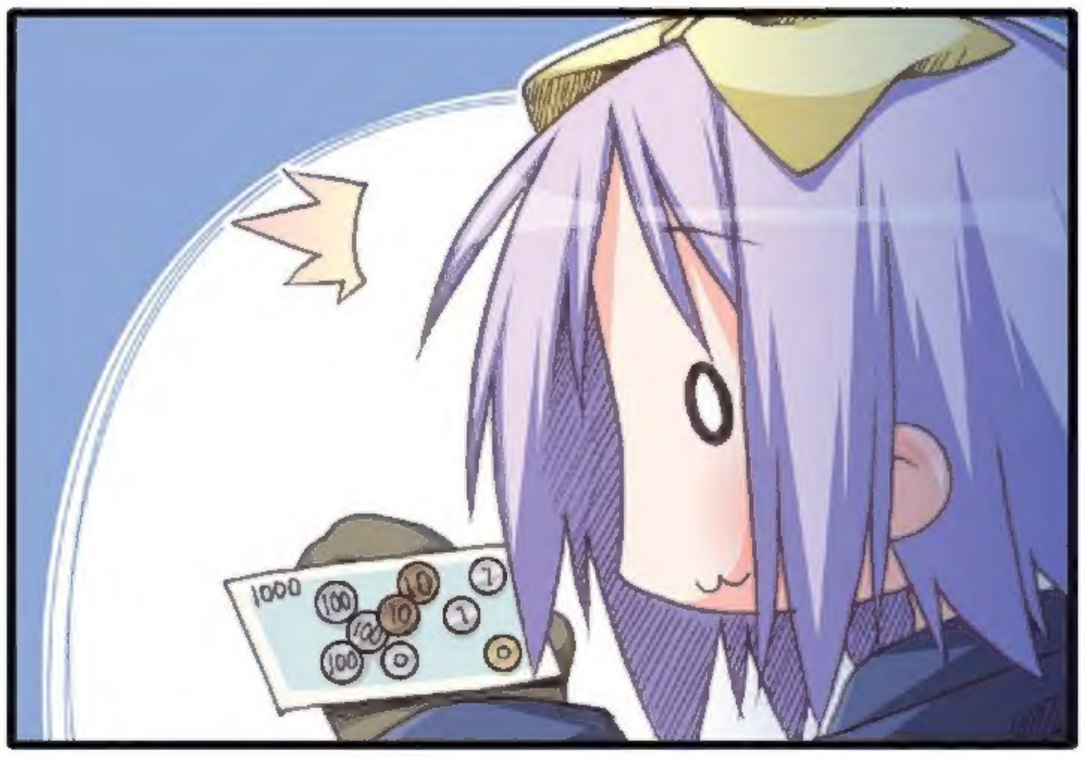

YES. YOU GET AN ENJOYABLE, BLISSFUL FEELING.
ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEN YOU CAN PUT OUT EXACT CHANGE, YOU GET THE FEELING THAT IT'S GOING TO BE A GOOD DAY, DON'T YOU?

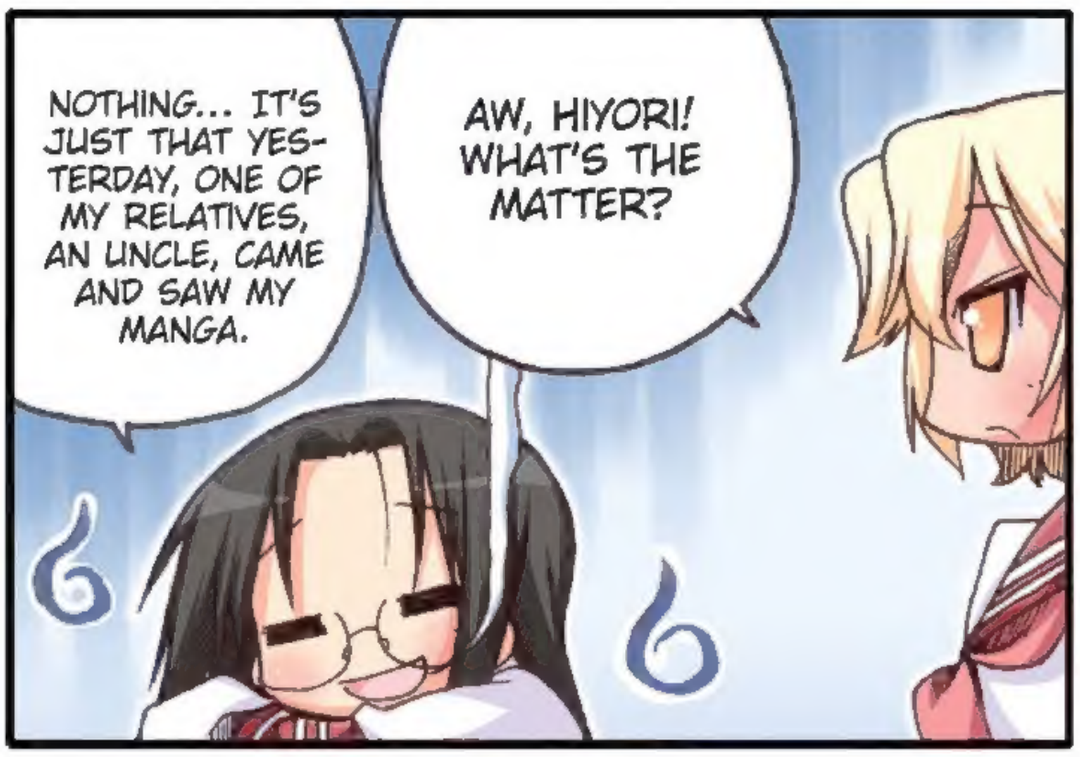
I'M ALWAYS SURPRISED HOW YOU GUYS GET SO WORKED UP OVER THE TINIEST THINGS!
Me too, but...
AWW!
NOT ME! I GET THE FEELING THAT I JUST USED UP ALL MY LUCK FOR THE DAY ON THAT ONE STUPID THING!

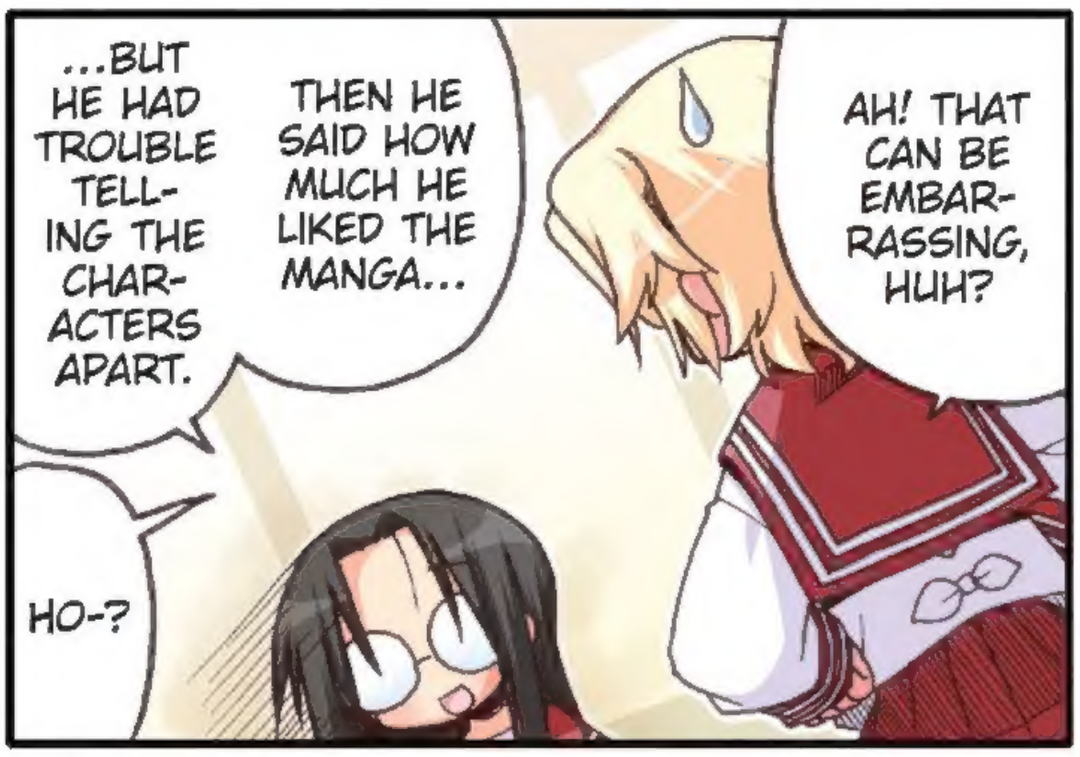
near the pin

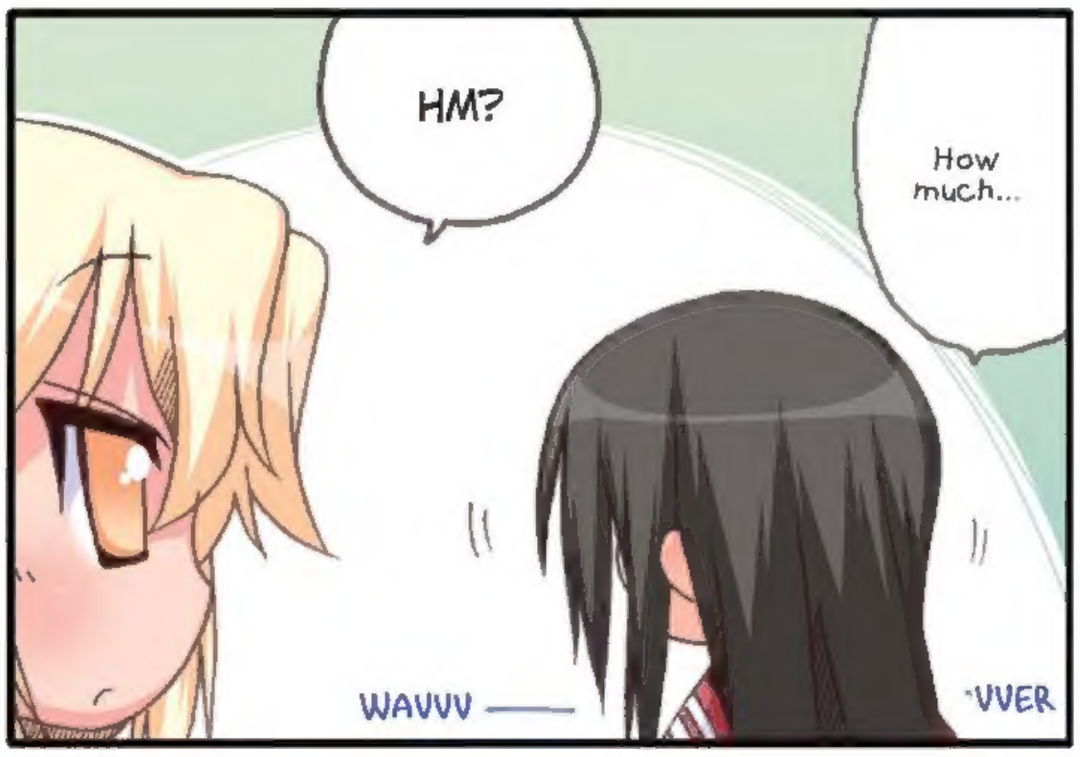


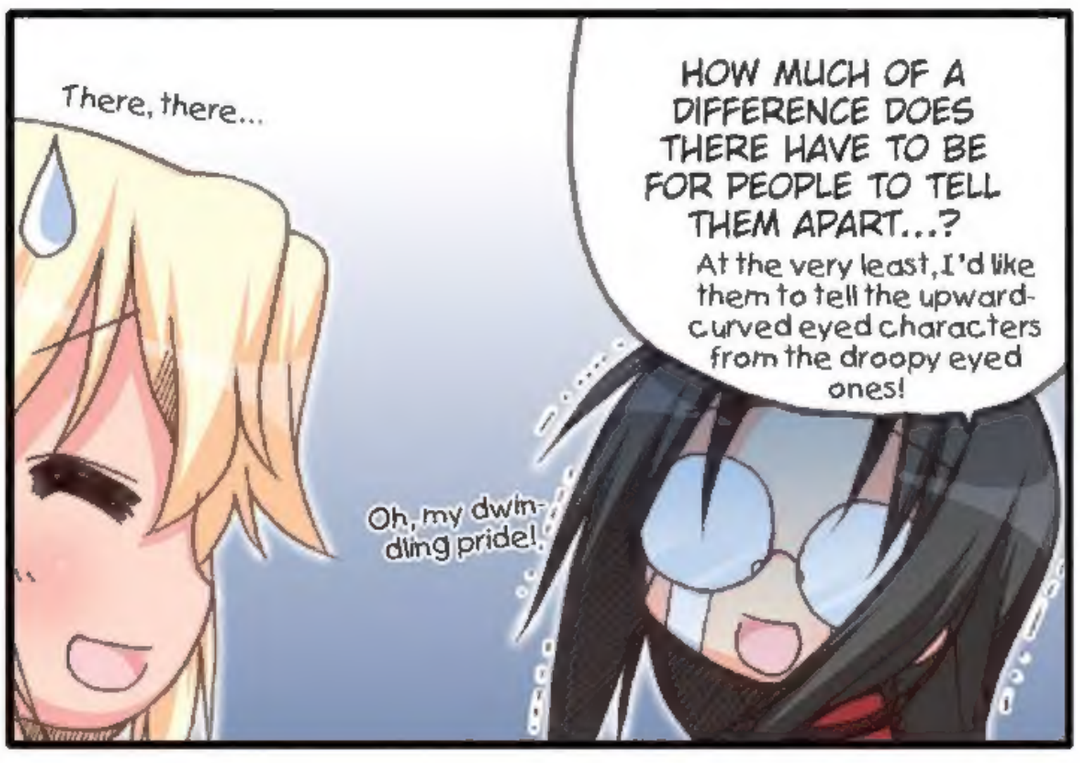







...BUT HE HAD TROUBLE TELLING THE CHARACTERS APART.
THEN HE SAID HOW MUCH HE LIKED THE MANGA...
AH! THAT CAN BE EMBARRASSING, HUH?
HO-?



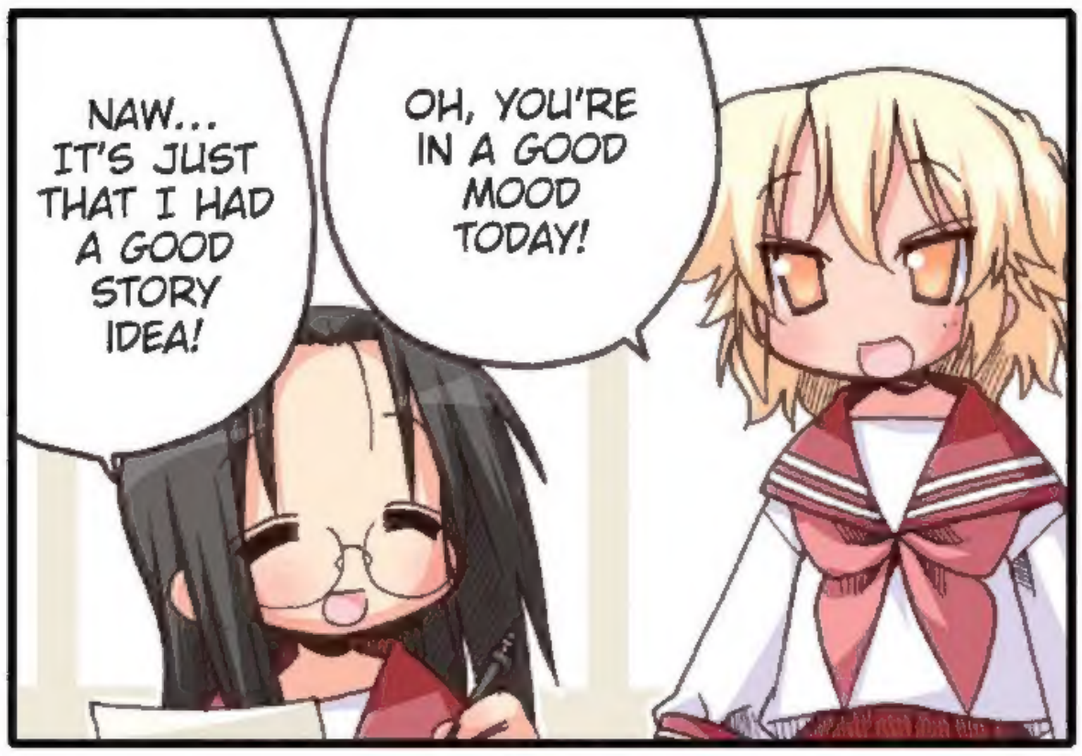

There, there...
HOW MUCH OF A DIFFERENCE DOES THERE HAVE TO BE FOR PEOPLE TO TELL THEM APART...?
At the very least, I'd like them to tell the upward-curved eyed characters from the droopy eyed ones!
Oh, my dwindling pride!

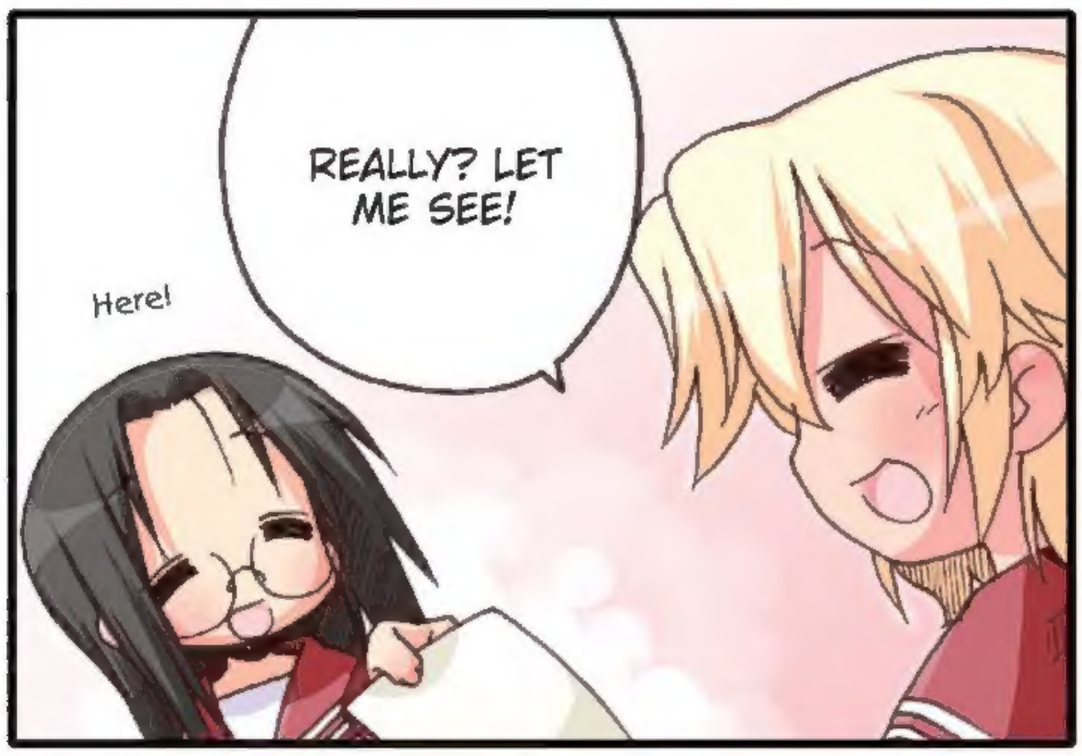
Lucky☆Star

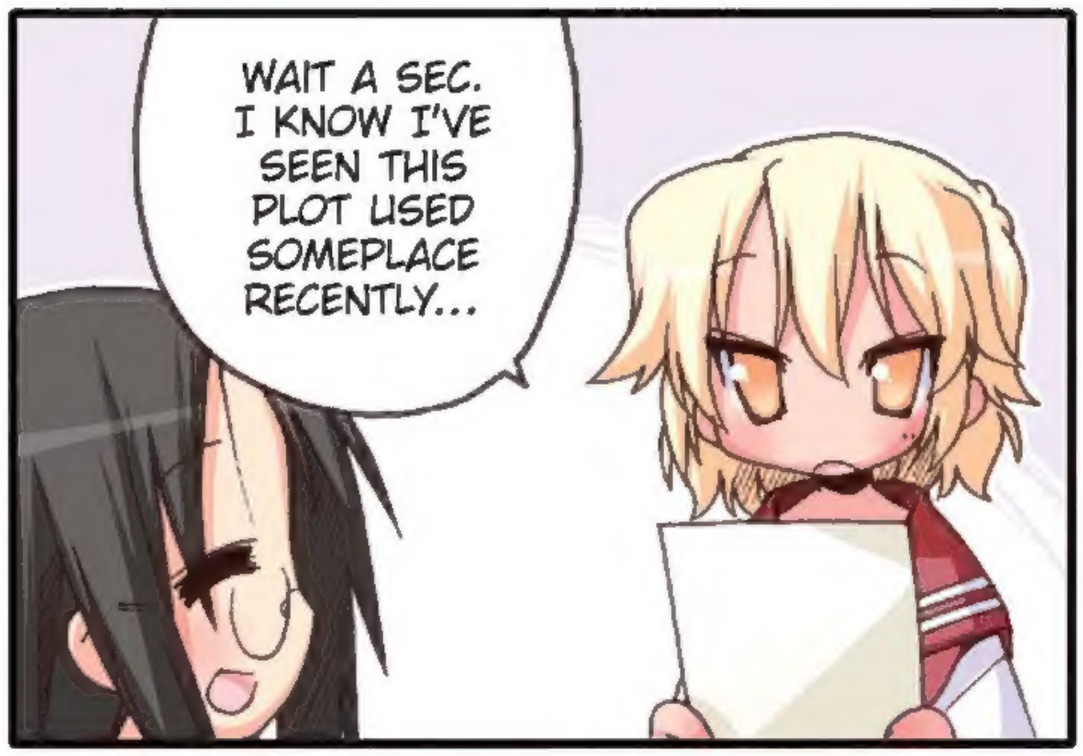
episode 151
reaction

● Comptiq, December 2007 issue

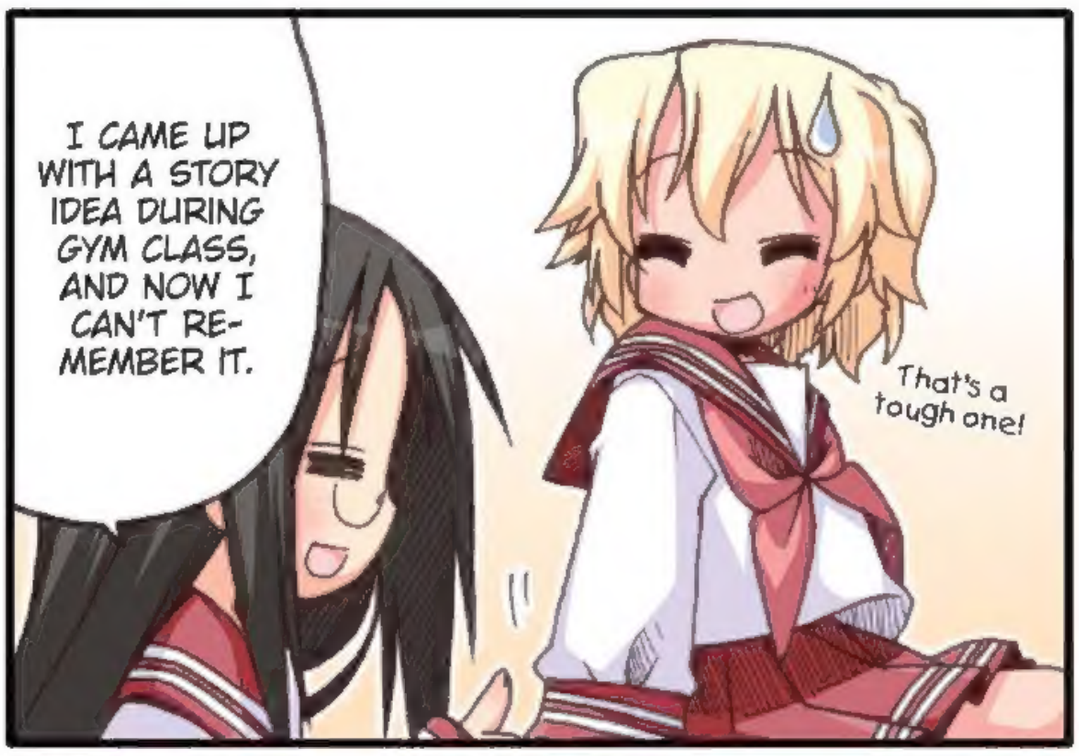
100m shock





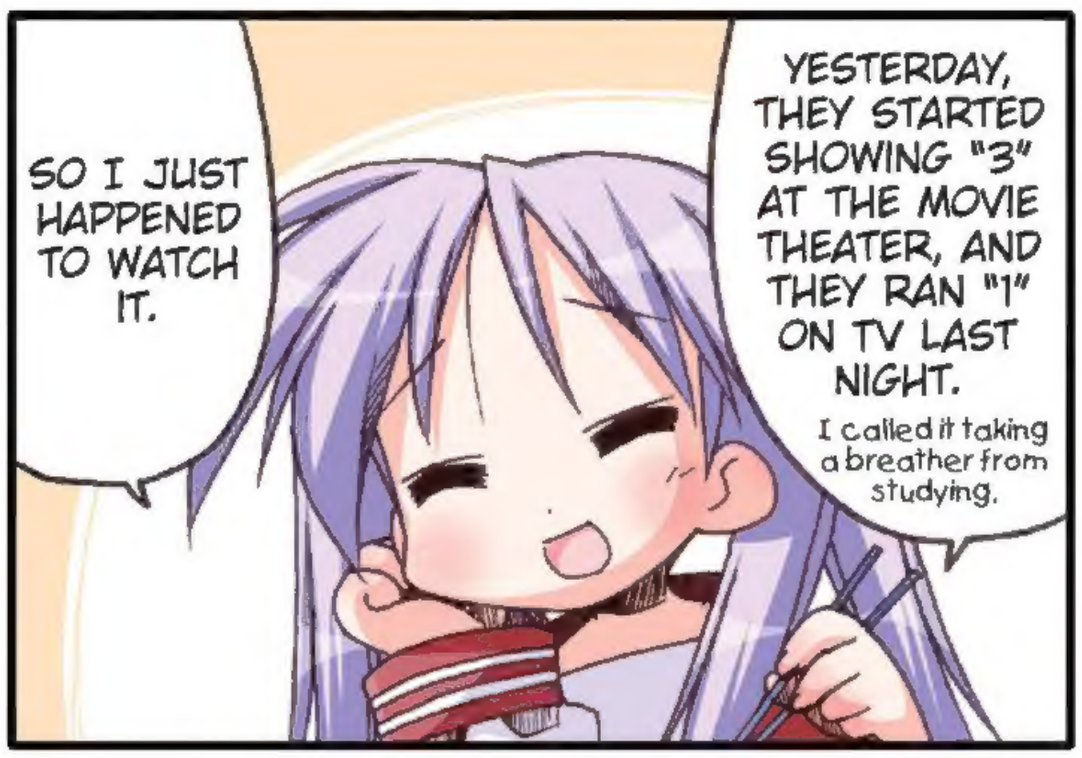


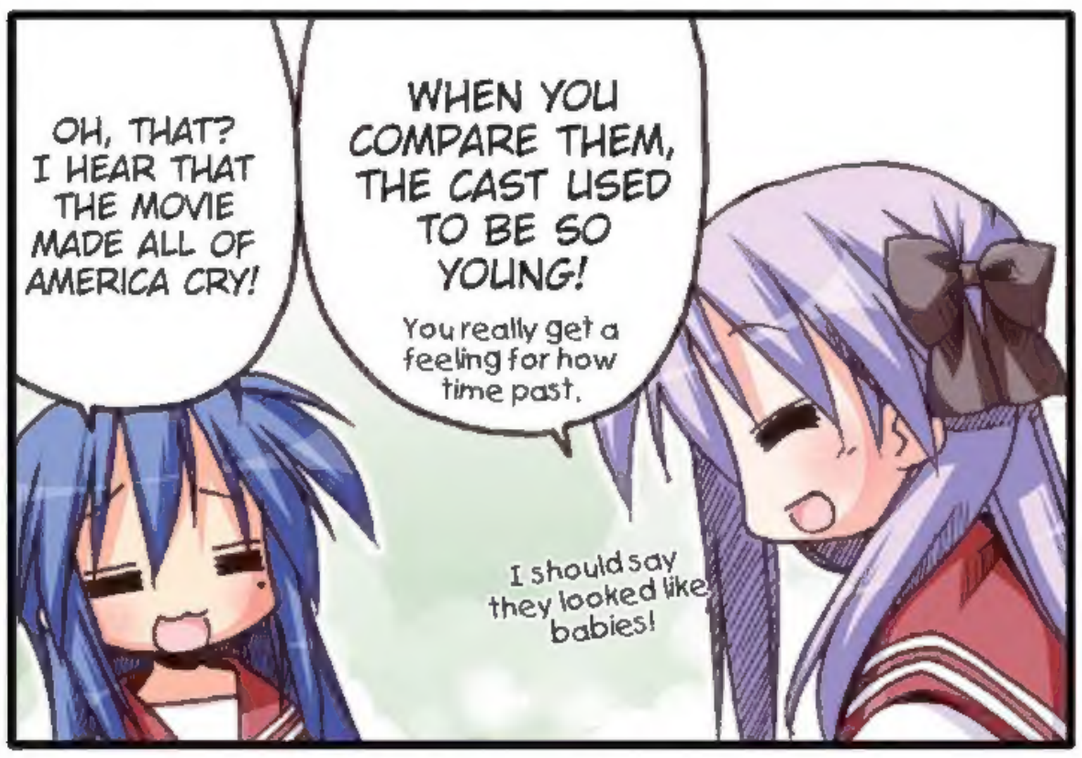
complete befuddlement



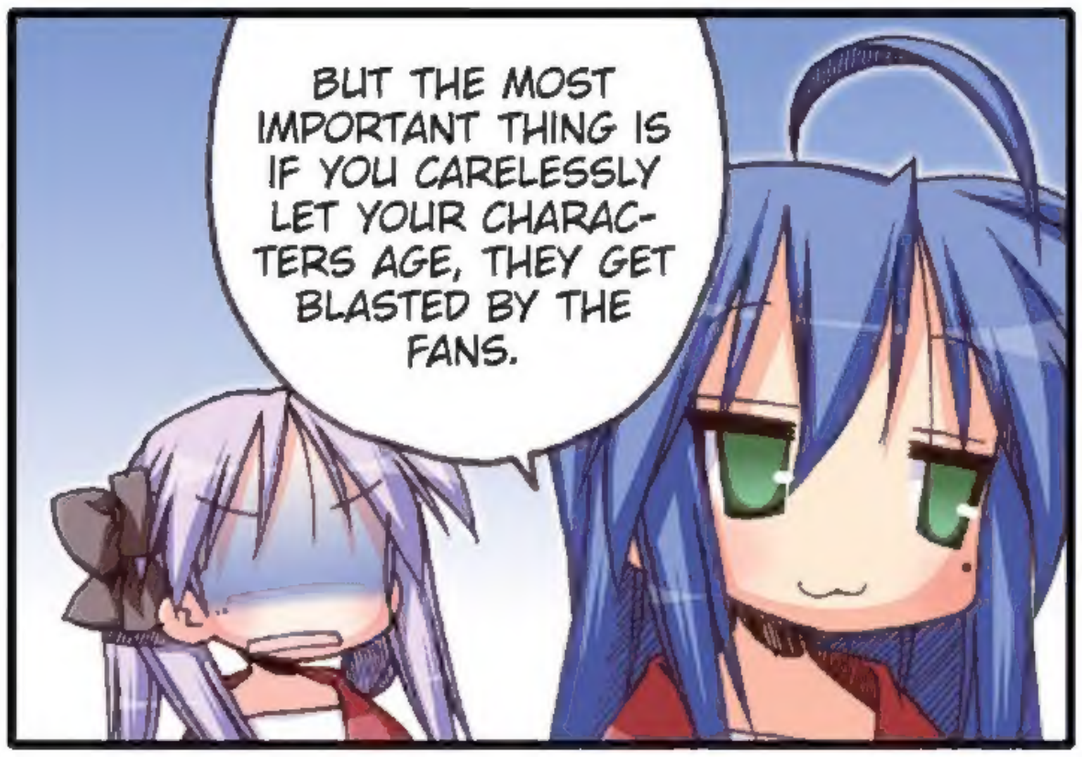
YEAH, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, BUT...
I THINK I'D BE SO MUCH HAPPIER A PERSON IF I COULD FORGET THE FACT THAT I EVEN THOUGHT UP A STORY IDEA IN THE FIRST PLACE.

once it's past 15...

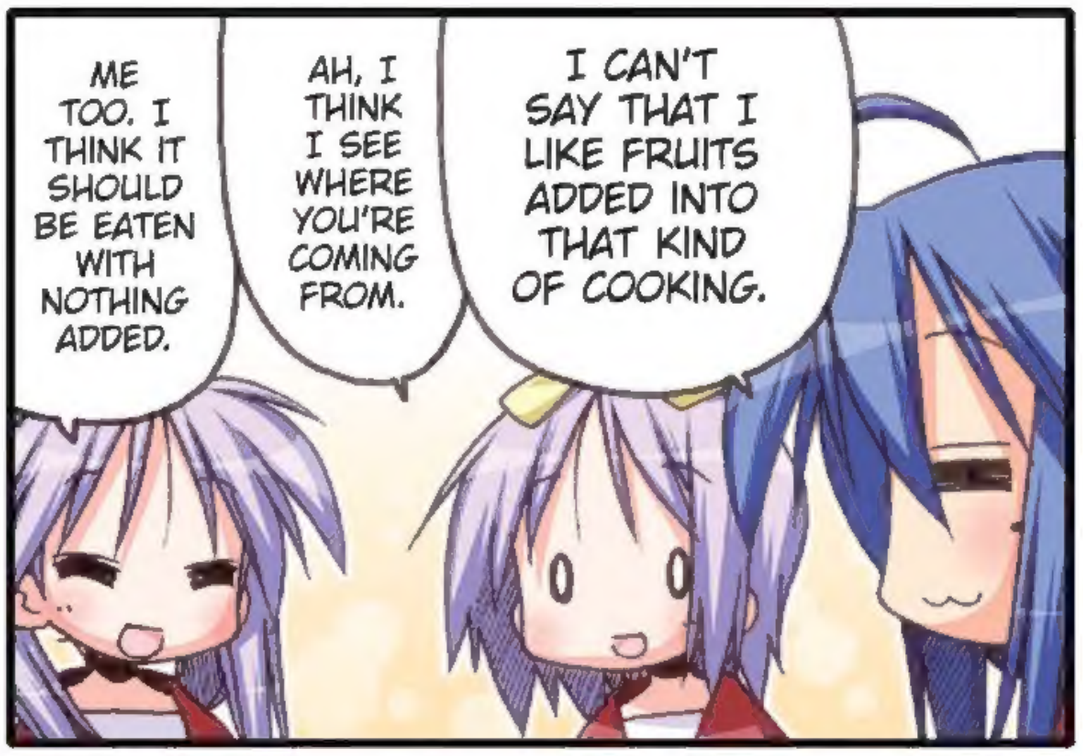

SO I JUST HAPPENED TO WATCH IT.
YESTERDAY, THEY STARTED SHOWING "3" AT THE MOVIE THEATER, AND THEY RAN "1" ON TV LAST NIGHT.
I called it taking a breather from studying.

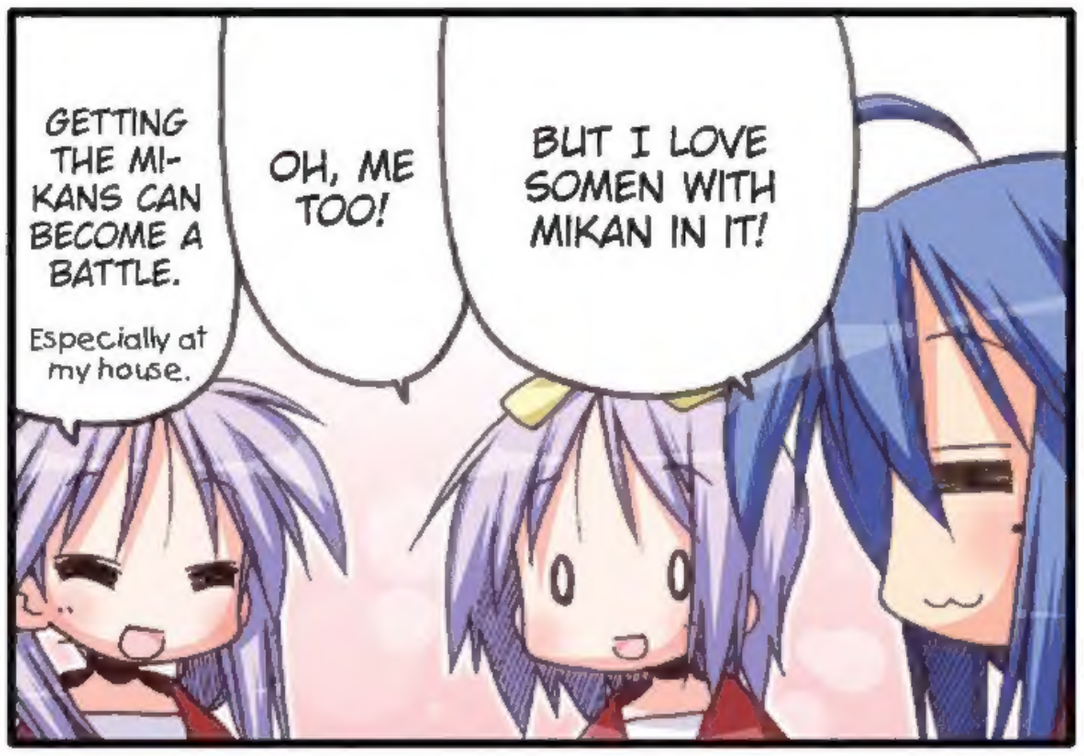

OH, THAT? I HEAR THAT THE MOVIE MADE ALL OF AMERICA CRY!
WHEN YOU COMPARE THEM, THE CAST USED TO BE SO YOUNG!
You really get a feeling for how time past.
I should say they looked like babies!

I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT, BUT I THINK THAT'S A FEATURE OF ILLUSTRATIONS.
Not that there's anything wrong with getting older.
THAT'S ONE GOOD POINT OF GAMES AND ANIME. THEY CAN GO INTO THE SECOND AND THIRD SEASONS AND STILL NEVER AGE.



both poles


ME TOO. I THINK IT SHOULD BE EATEN WITH NOTHING ADDED.
AH, I THINK I SEE WHERE YOU'RE COMING FROM.
I CAN'T SAY THAT I LIKE FRUITS ADDED INTO THAT KIND OF COOKING.



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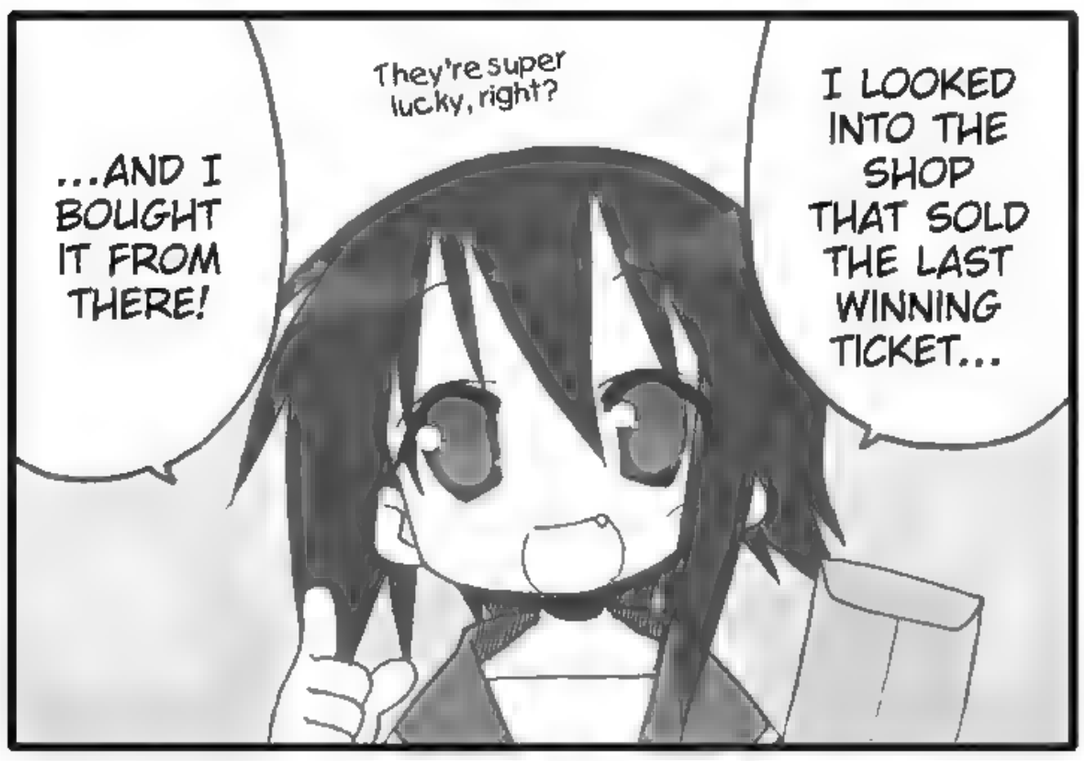


It's all right. It's all right.
COULD IT BE THAT HIIRAGI HATES ME? IS THAT IT?
BUT DON'T YOU GET THE IMPRESSION THAT ONCE A SHOP SELLS A WINNING TICKET, THEY DON'T GET ANY OTHERS FOR QUITE A WHILE?

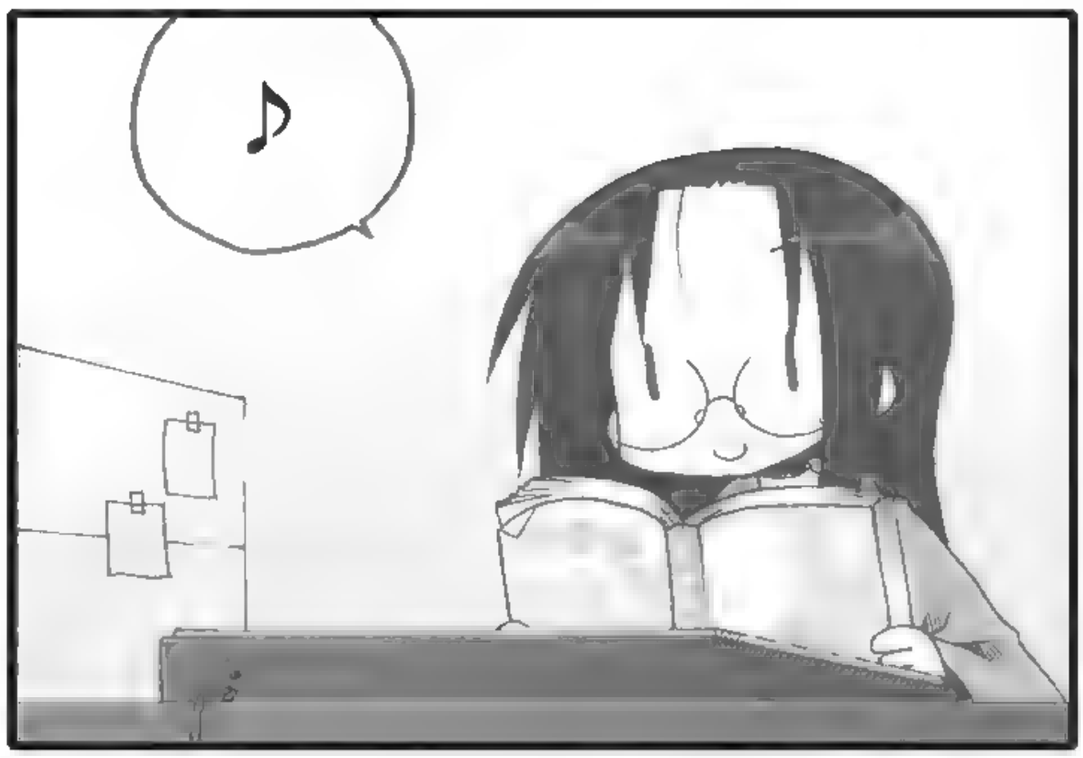
Lucky☆Star

episode 152
truth

● Comptiq, November 2007 issue

carnage

dead



cause

effect

OH, I WONDER WHAT WENT ON?

REALLY! I... I CAN'T FIND ANY WORDS TO EXPRESS...

Waa — ah

OH, YEAH! IT SEEMS THERE WAS A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT.

EXCUSE ME, BUT DID SOMETHING HAPPEN HERE?

OH, MINAMI-CHAN! YOU'RE ONLY GETTING HOME NOW?

BOW

Good afternoon.

BUT A GIRL WITH SHORT HAIR PULLED HIM OUT IN THE NICK OF TIME.

It seems she was a Ryou-ou student.

A LITTLE BOY WAS JUST ABOUT TO BE CAUGHT UP IN IT.

I TOOK A NO-TABLE SPILL A FEW MINUTES AGO.

OH, DEAR, MINAMI-CHAN! WHAT'S WITH THAT GETUP?

EH? YOU THINK SO?

...BUT REALLY, MINAMI-CHAN IS HOT!

YES, YOU CAN CALL HER COOL, AND I GUESS IT FITS...

Your mother is a little happy today.

YES, DEFINITELY NOTABLE...

Are you all right?

HEH HEH

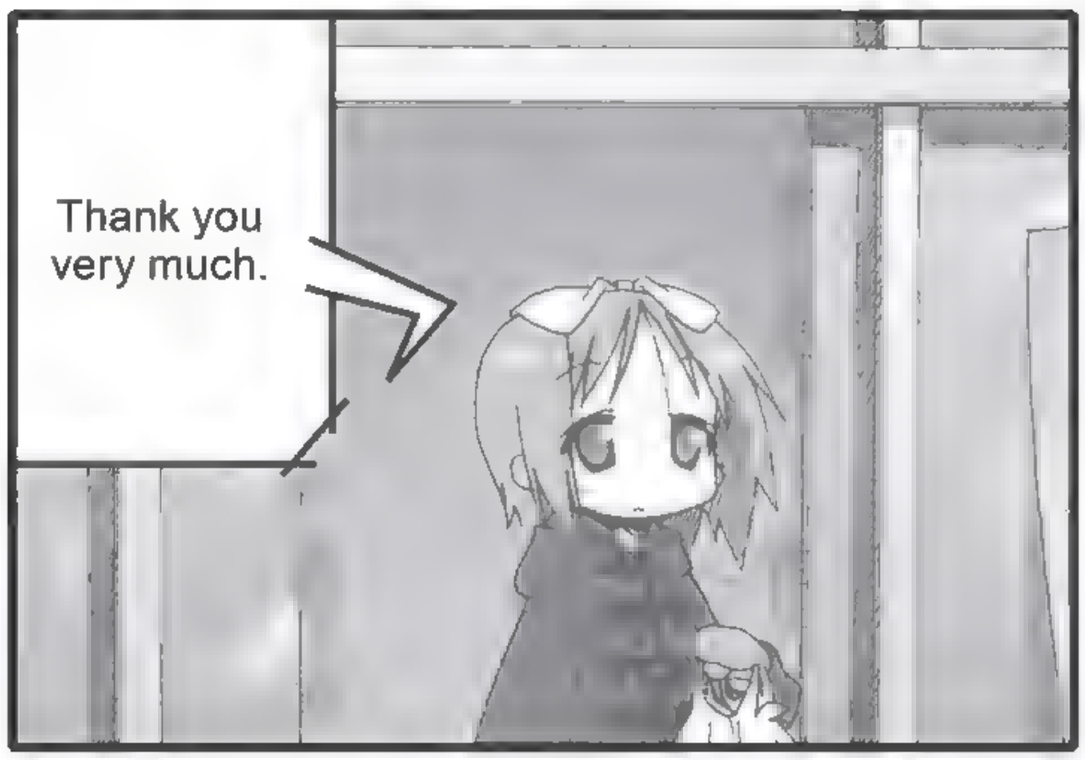
EVERYBODY ALWAYS CALLS MINAMI-SAN COOL AND A REALLY SHARP DRESSER!

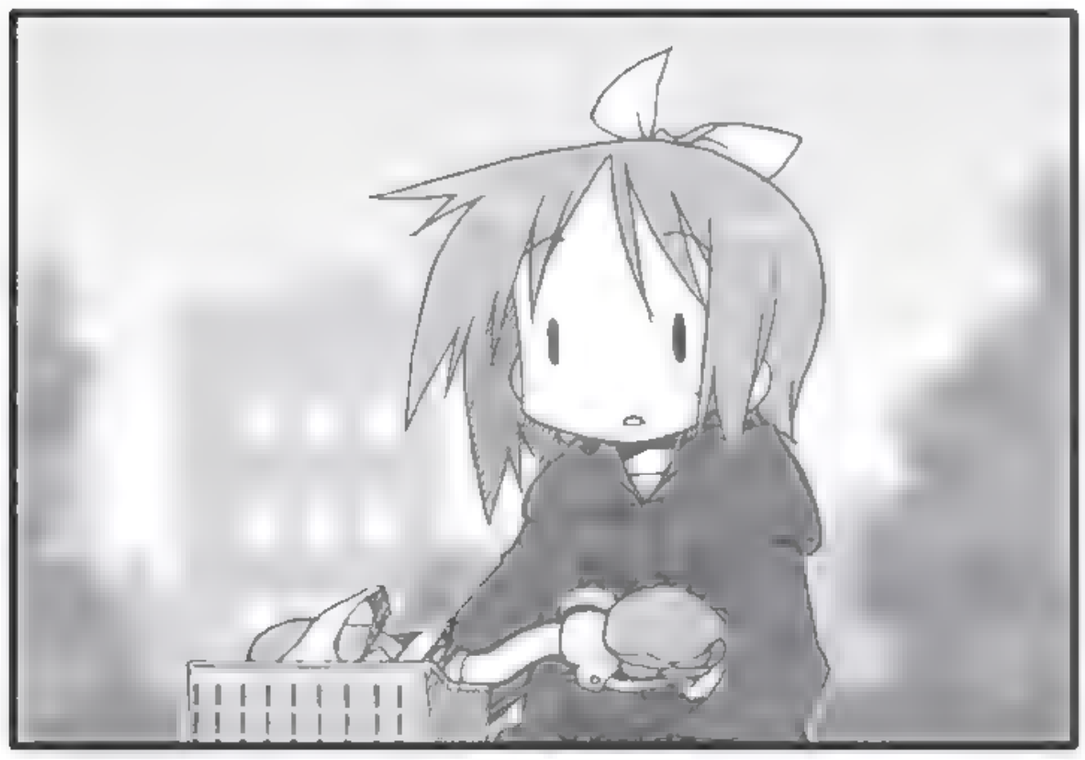
Take this!!
It's my Neo Fire Shot!!

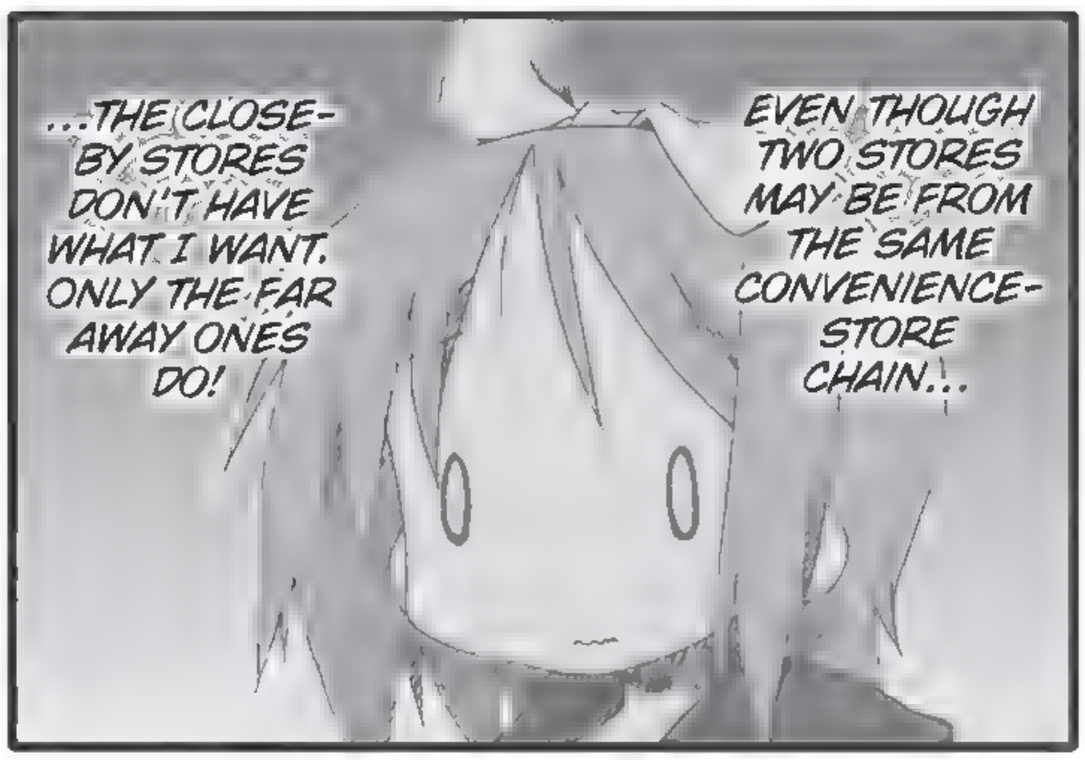
● Konata Izumi

If you want an over-the-head kick, I can do that too!!
...but the ball will fly off in no particular direction.

is it personal?






...THE CLOSE-BY STORES DON'T HAVE WHAT I WANT. ONLY THE FAR AWAY ONES DO!
EVEN THOUGH TWO STORES MAY BE FROM THE SAME CONVENIENCE-STORE CHAIN...

Lucky☆Star

episode 153
stepped on and kicked

● Comptiq, December 2007 issue

formidable adversary 2

formidable adversary 1

lucky punch

DAMMIT! JUST LOOK AT ME NOW, LITTLE GIRL!

OH?

Kagami and the gang have been deep into study and won't come along nowadays.

Wow! So this is what a game center is like!

OH, HO! I'M FACING A COMPLETE BEGINNER. WELL I'LL JUST GO EASY ON HER.

JUST PUNCH WHATEVER BUTTON YOU FEEL LIKE.

BUT I'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE...

Can't I just watch you?

YU-CHAN, COME ON! GIVE THIS A TRY!

...I FEEL SO EMPTY, I CAN'T DO ANYTHING!

YOU KNOW... AFTER LOSING TO SOMEBODY JUST PRESS-ING RANDOM BUTTONS...

full of bruises

AH! THEY'VE GOT A NEW GAME IN!

Let's give it a try!

AT THE GAME CENTER...

HM... IT'S PRETTY FUN, BUT... IT LOOKS LIKE IT'LL TAKE A BIT OF TIME TO GET USED TO.

KLIK

KLIK

Wasn't it you who said that people going easy on you made you annoyed?

...BUT I WISH SHE'D LIGHTEN UP ON ME A BIT!

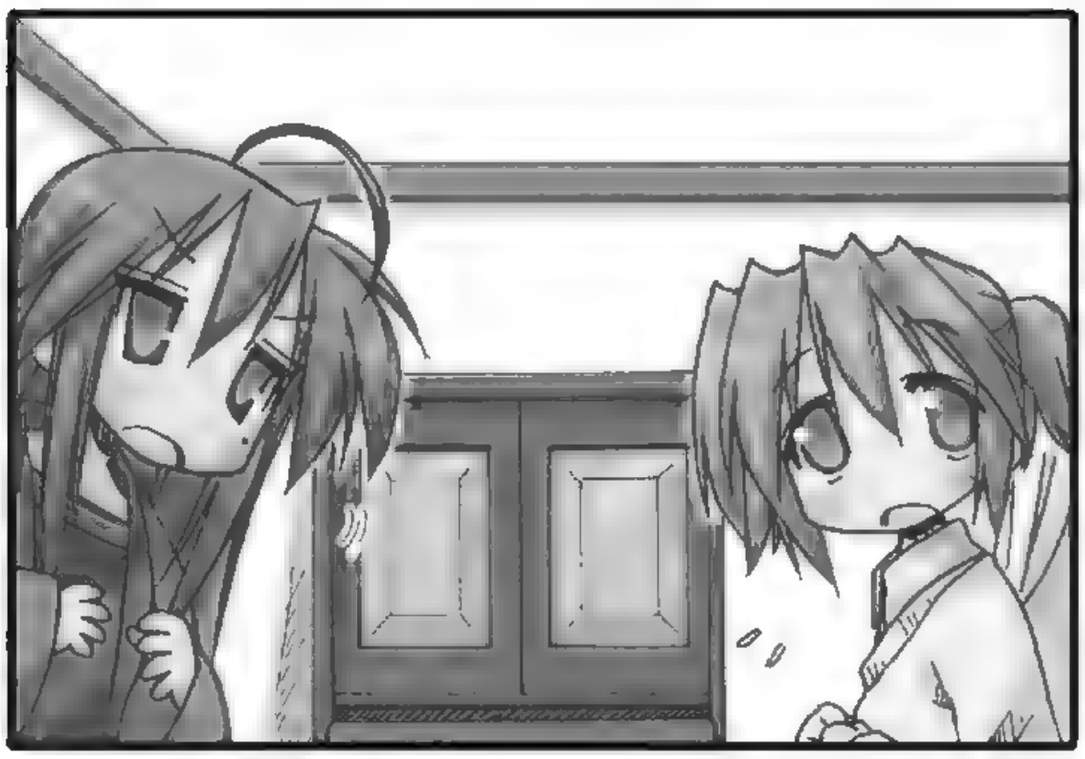
YOU KNOW, I REALIZE THAT I'M NOT READY FOR THE BIG-LEAGUES YET...

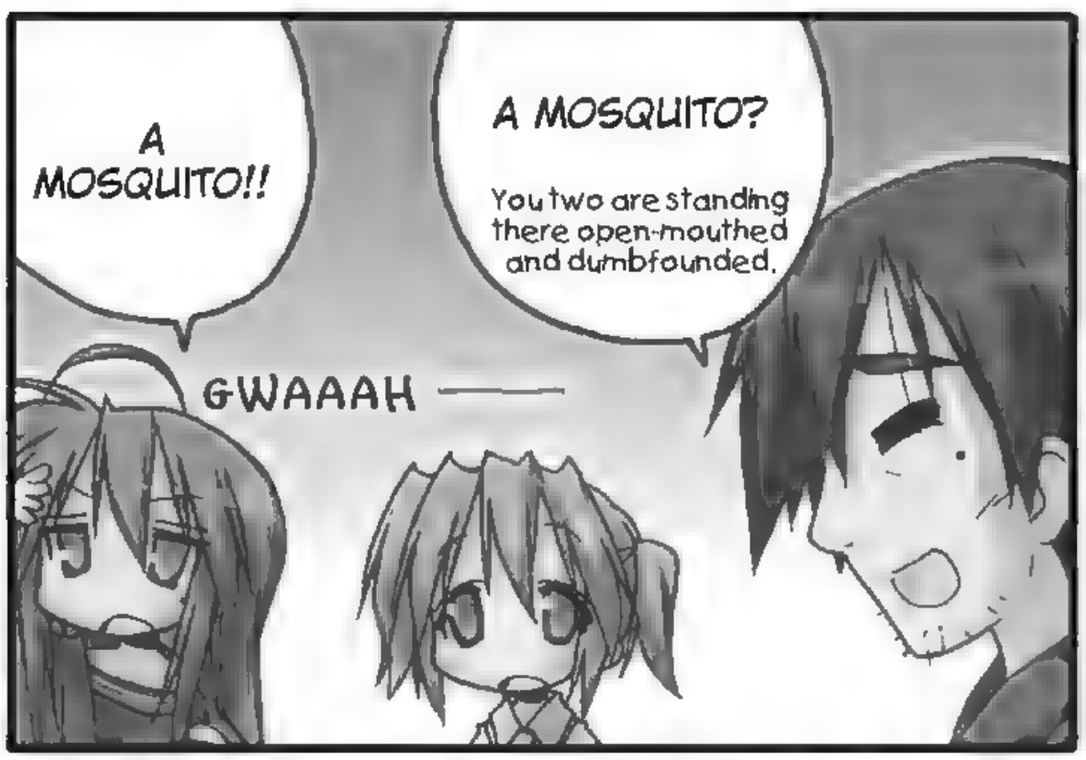
Ah... I knew...
...that I forgot something...

● Tsukasa Hiiragi

You always remember the thing you forgot right after getting home, huh?
Now I have to go again! ^_^

episode 154
the unrelinquished scene



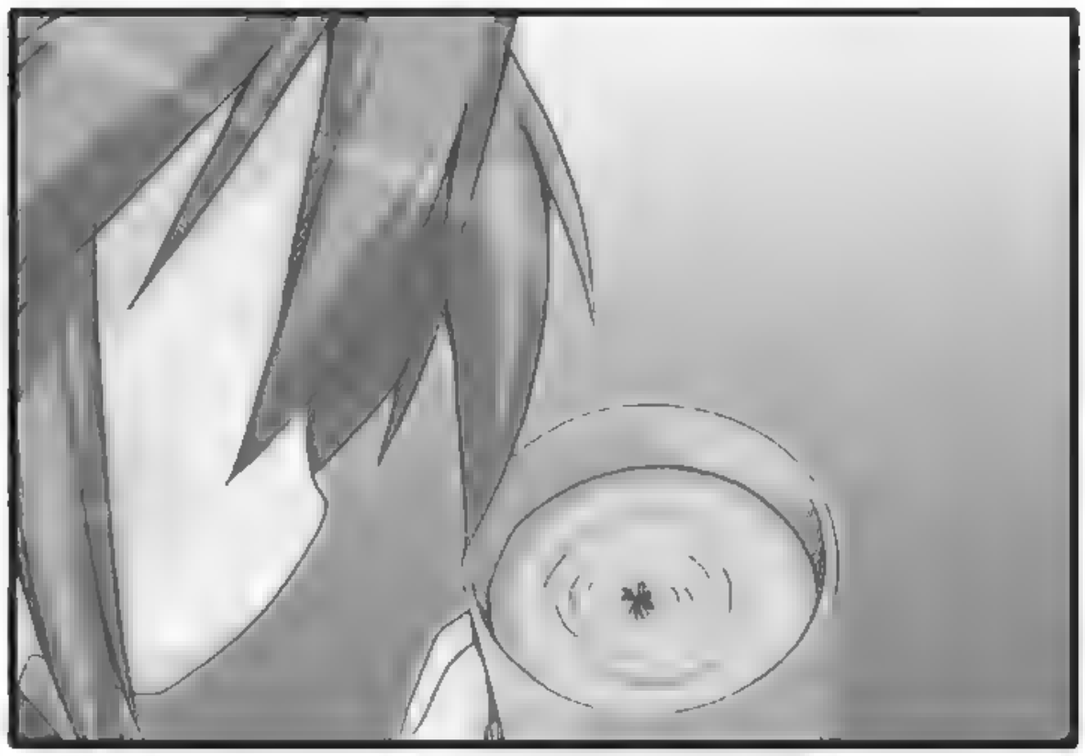


● Comptiq, January 2008 issue

in the end

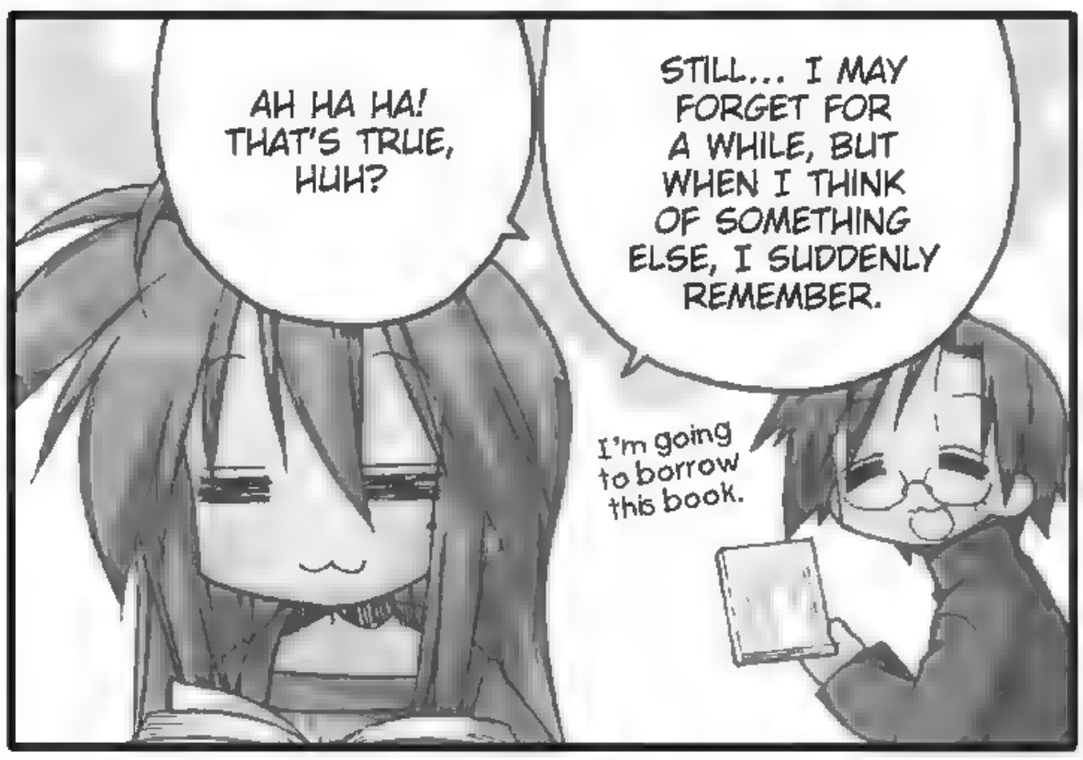
vengeance

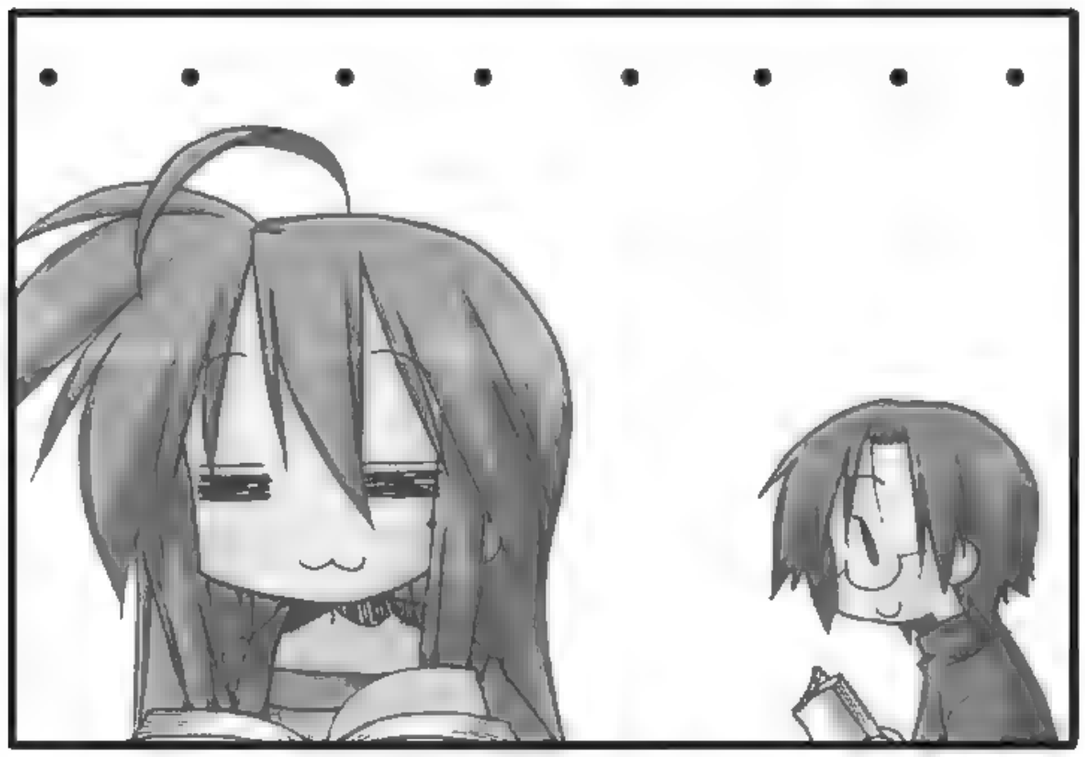
PHEW! IT'S FINALLY GONE! THE CREEP DIDN'T EVEN HAVE ENOUGH SENSE TO DIE IN THE SUMMER, AND NOW IT GIVES ME NO END OF TROUBLE!
SIGH
SUU, man!



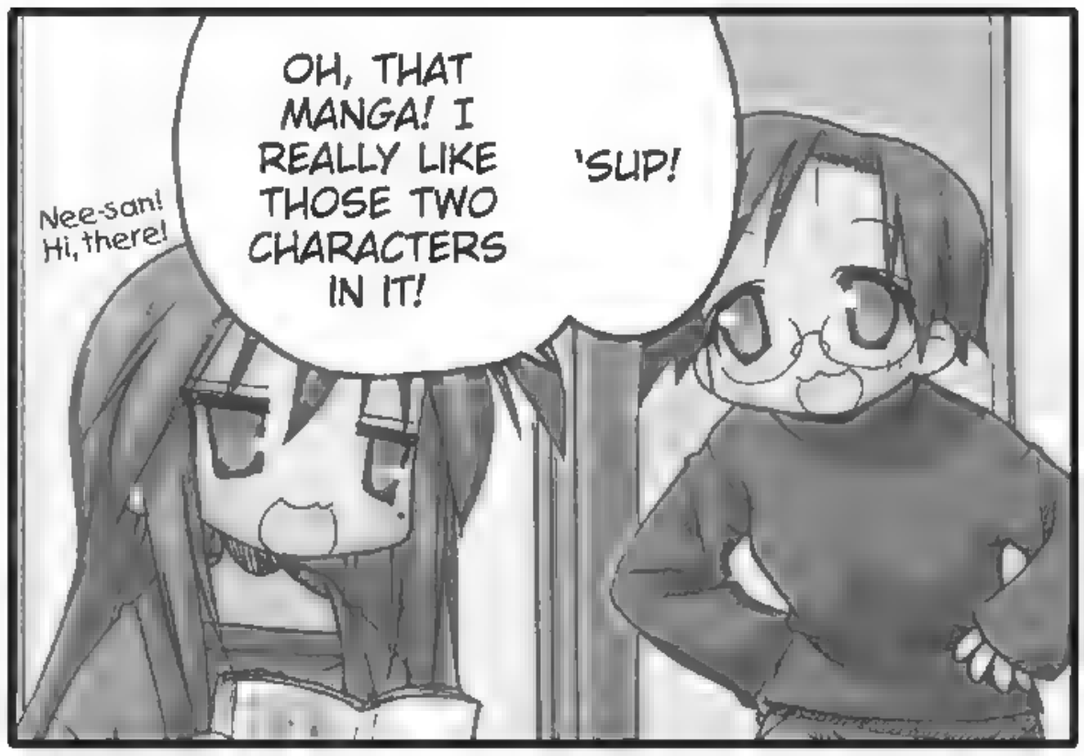
just can't give up

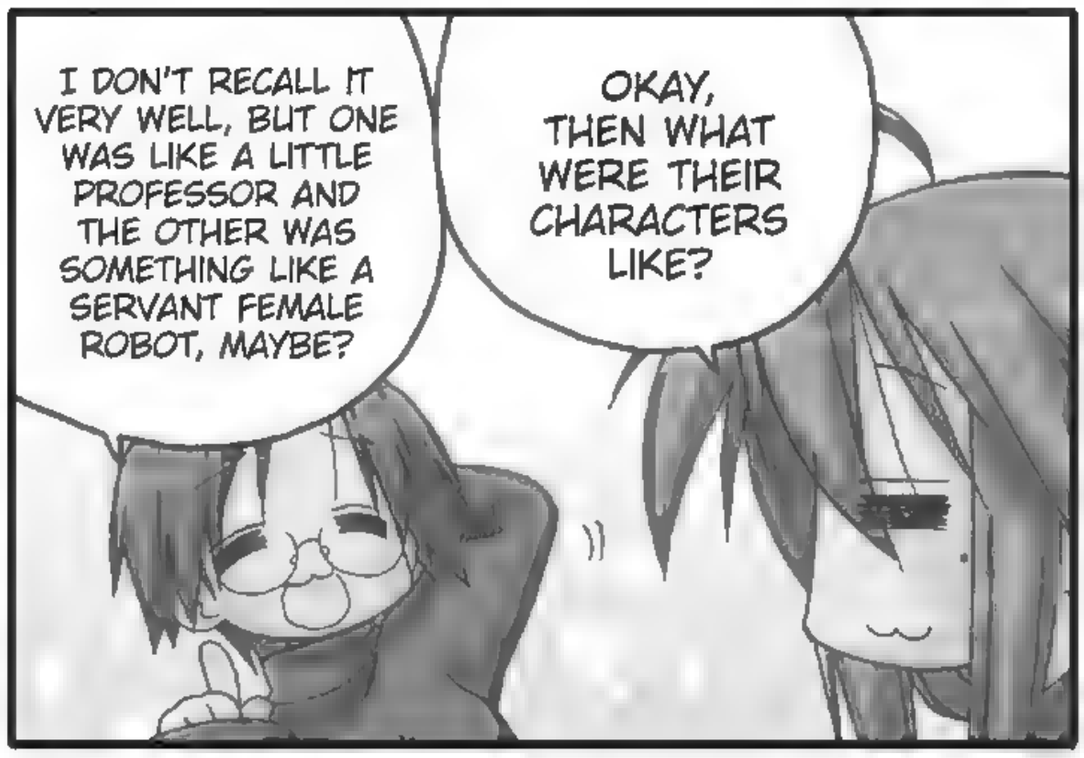
AH! THAT HAPPENS A LOT, DOESN'T IT?
...I CAN'T REMEMBER THE PERSON'S NAME NO MATTER HOW MUCH I LIKE THEM.
WELL, I SHOULDN'T TALK. IF THERE'S A CELEBRITY I LIKE AND THE PERSON HASN'T BEEN ON TV FOR A WHILE...
That came up today when I was talking to Kagami and everybody.


AH HA HA! THAT'S TRUE, HUH?
STILL... I MAY FORGET FOR A WHILE, BUT WHEN I THINK OF SOMETHING ELSE, I SUDDENLY REMEMBER.
I'm going to borrow this book.



love




I DON'T RECALL IT VERY WELL, BUT ONE WAS LIKE A LITTLE PROFESSOR AND THE OTHER WAS SOMETHING LIKE A SERVANT FEMALE ROBOT, MAYBE?
OKAY, THEN WHAT WERE THEIR CHARACTERS LIKE?

You say you don't remember, but their jobs were really well defined in the manga.
HA HA HA
I didn't pay too much attention.
.....
NEE-SAN, DID YOU *REALLY* LIKE THOSE CHARACTERS?
Well..

URRG... Will power!
Today is my day for will power!

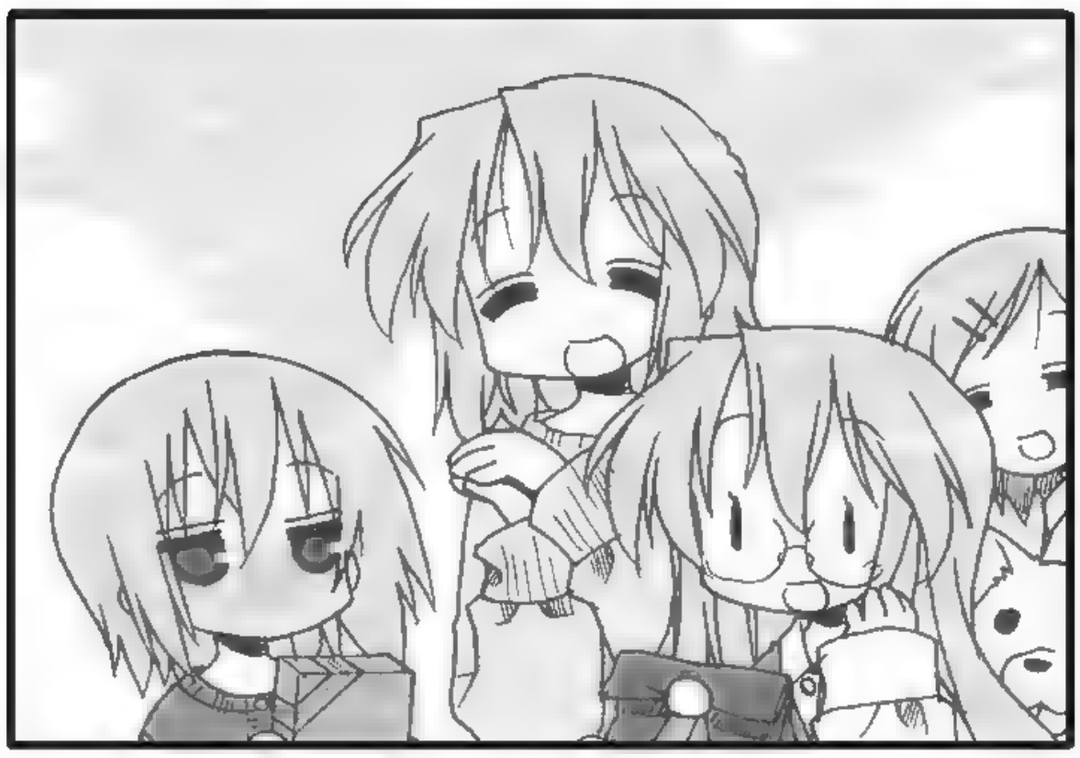
Kagami Hiiragi

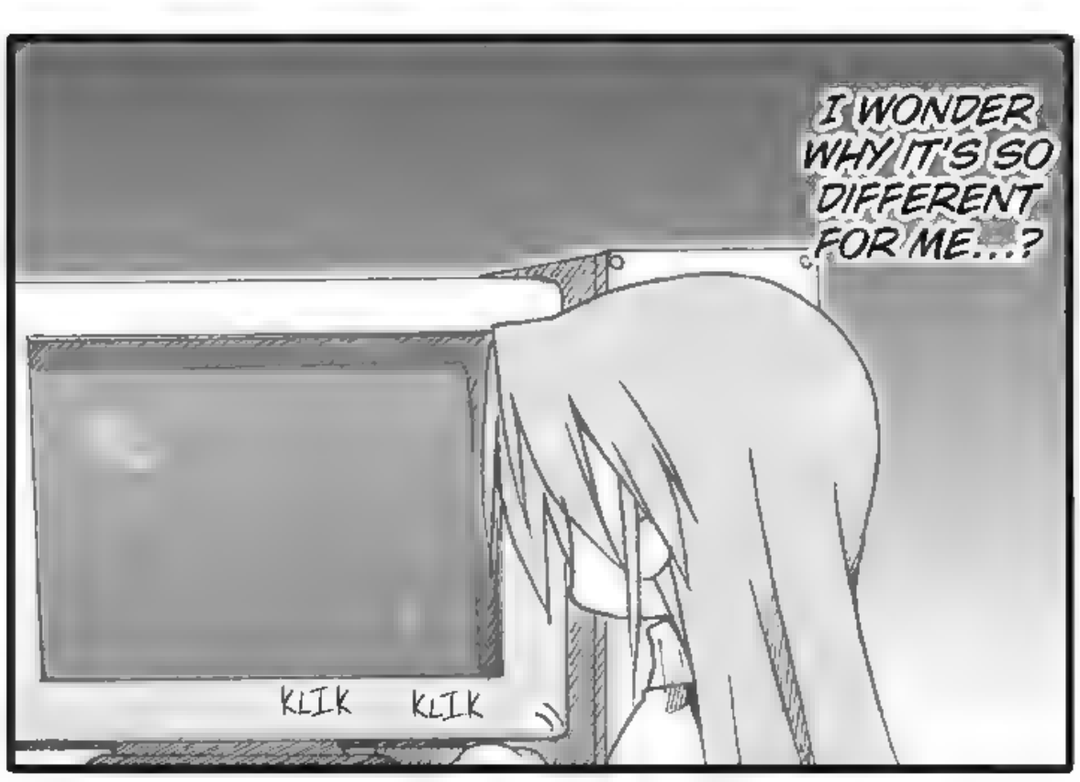
Isn't it just at the point where you're trying your best that the most temptations come?
But I'm going to use my will power! Ah!I don't know if Tsukasa put any preservatives in these cookies...

Lucky☆Star

episode 155
damp freeze

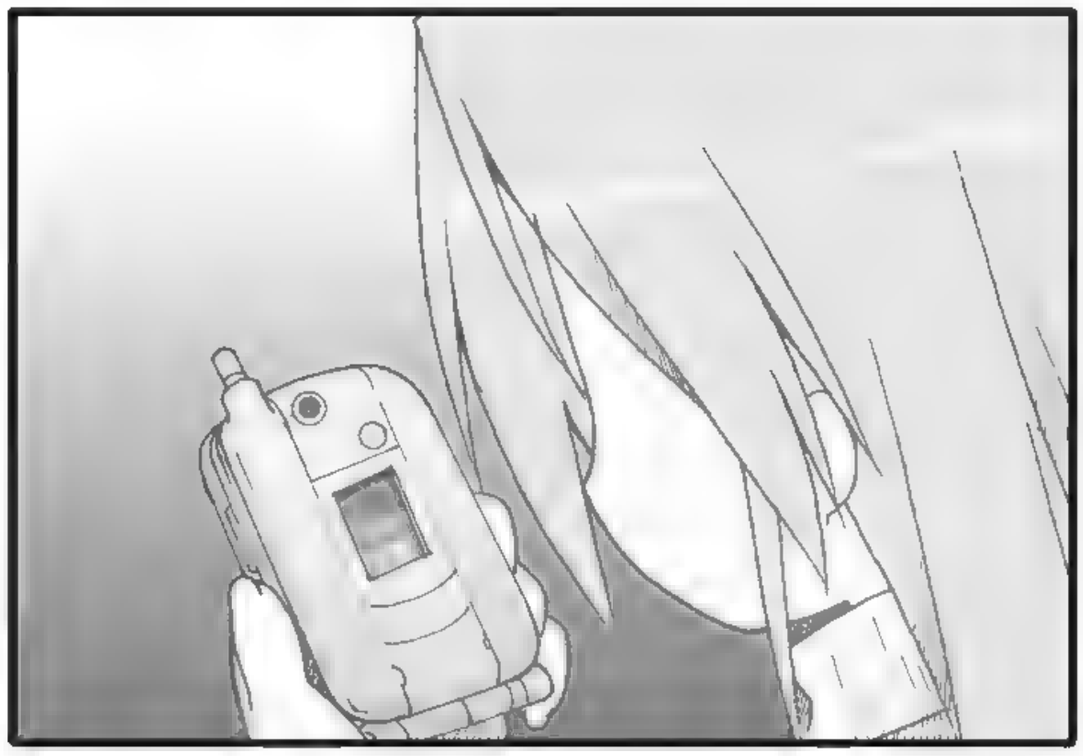
plans? none to speak of



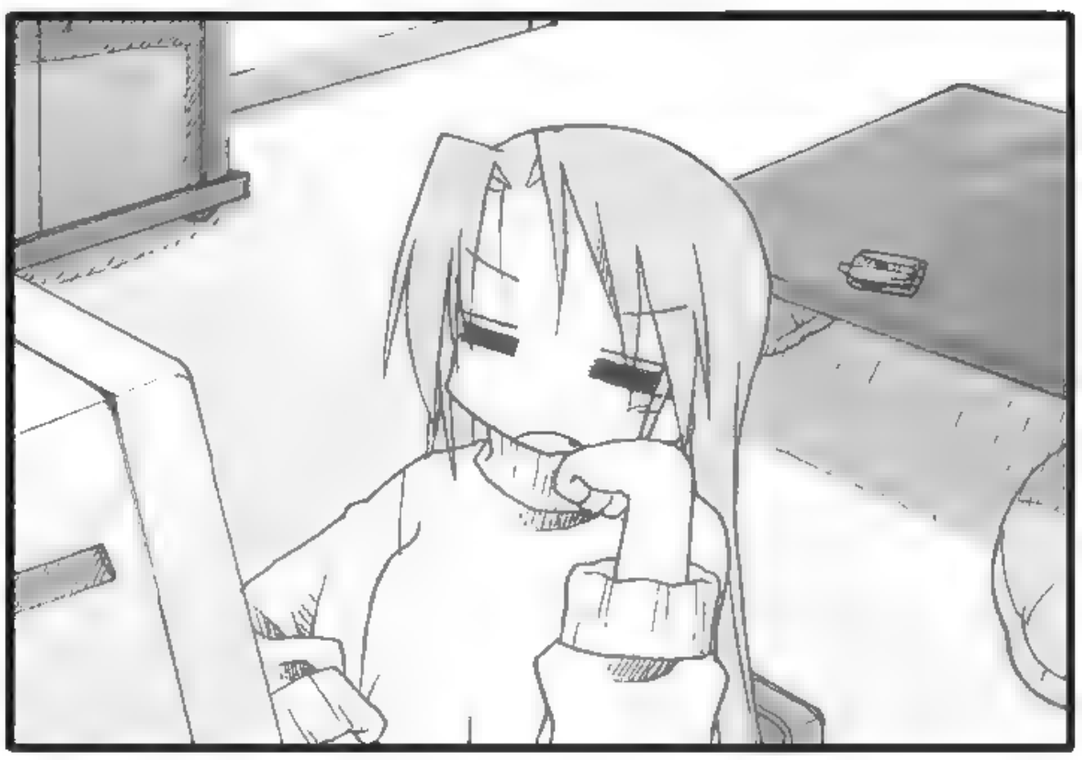


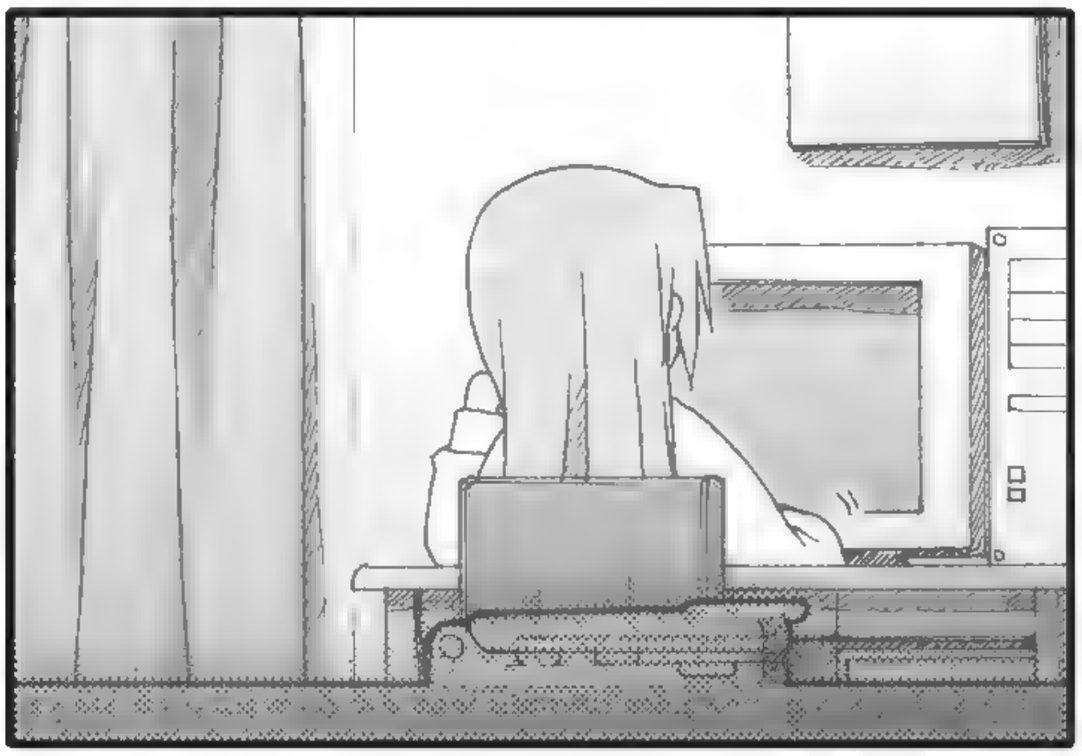
● Comptiq, January 2008 issue

into hell



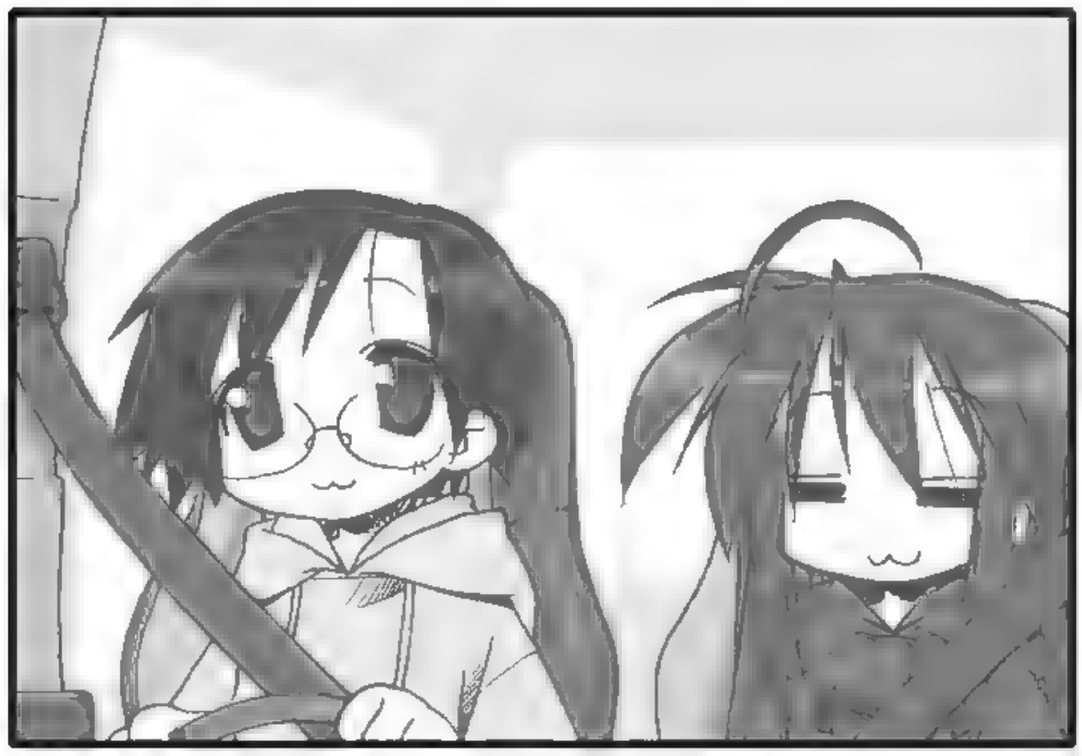
special day





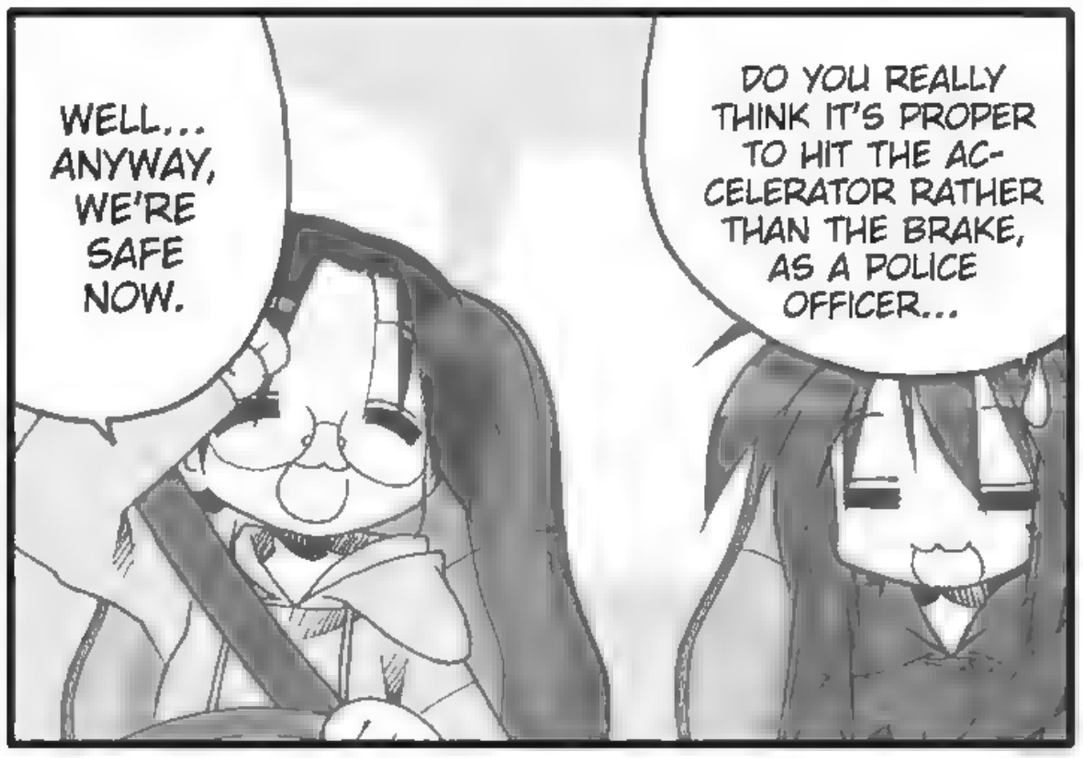
I GET AN-NOYED AT MYSELF FOR THINKING THAT IT'S POSSIBLE THAT "SOME-BODY WILL GIVE ME A CALL"!
. on Valentines day.
KH!! I HAVE TO DO BETTER AT KEEPING MY COOL.
I'll bet this is what the guys feel like.

the truth of the world



YEAH, I ALWAYS GET THAT IN THAT LINE AT THE REGISTER.
GLANCE
WHY IS IT THAT THE LANE I CHOSE IS ALWAYS THE SLOWEST LANE TO GO?
It's the lane with less traffic! Why?

stop and go



..... (nodding off)

Miyuki Takara

When it's nice weather, it feels so good that I...
Of course, if I'm with somebody else, I never get sleepy at all.

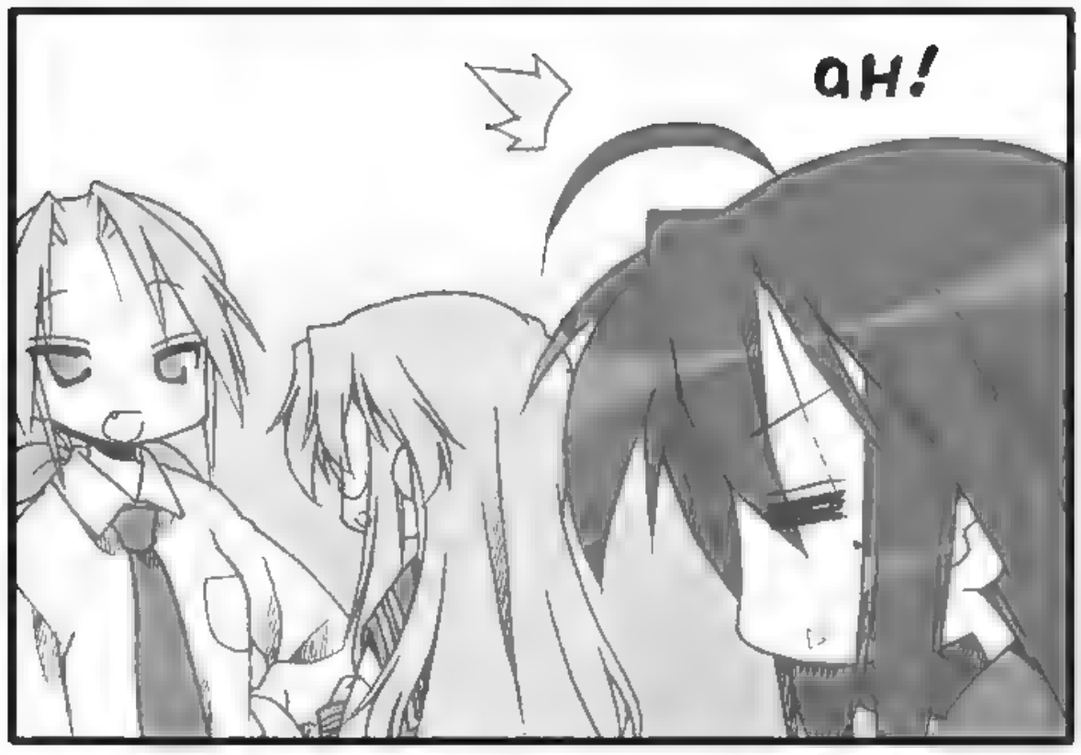
SHE'S SETTLED DOWN AND IS SLEEPING RIGHT NOW.
EXCUSE US! HOW IS KOBAYAKAWA-SAN DOING?
THAT'S A GOOD THING!
IT'S BEEN COLD RECENTLY, BUT THERE ARE LESS PEOPLE HERE THAN I'D EXPECT.
..... THANK GOODNESS ...
Oh, Tamura.
Ah, Sensei! Hello.
NO, NOT AT ALL. EVERYBODY BEING FIT AND HEALTHY IS A HEALTH-OFFICE NURSE'S GREATEST HAPPINESS!
AREN'T YOU A LITTLE LONELY WHEN THE STUDENTS DON'T COME, SENSEI?
B W A A
A A H
I DON'T KNOW, BUT I GET THE FEELING THAT I'VE JUST WITNESSED A PERSON WHO IS JUST NICE TO EVERYBODY.
That isn't true at all!
You're just happy that you've got an easy day, right?

Lucky☆Star

episode 156
snow-white world

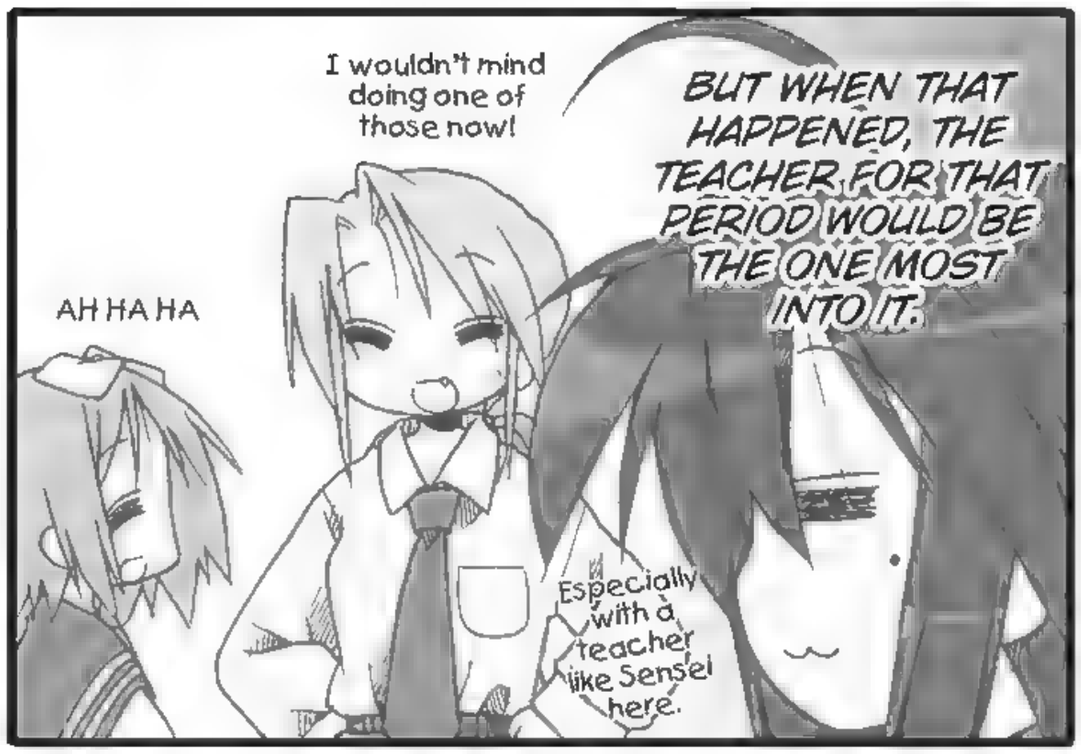
● Comptiq, February 2008 issue

caught by it

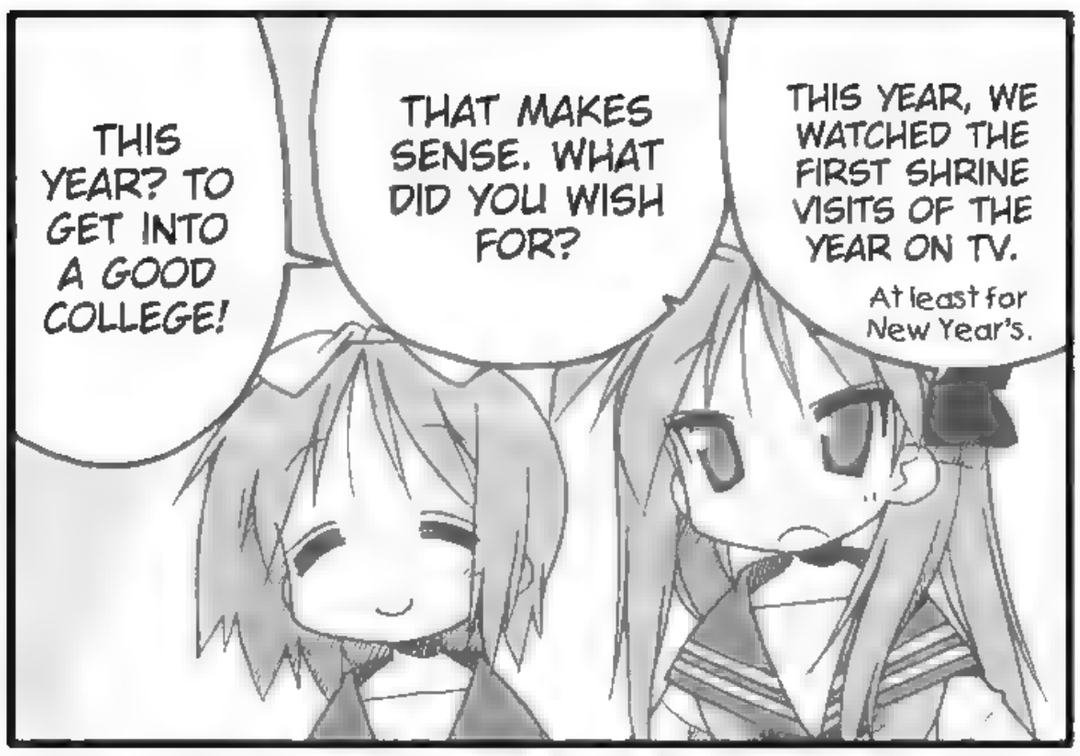


...I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE A SCENE WHERE MIYUKI-SAN THROWS A SNOWBALL AND IT ACTUALLY HITS SOMEBODY.
THAT'S IT!! JUST A FEW SECONDS AGO, I SAID, "THAT'S TRUE," BUT...

flow


I wouldn't mind doing one of those now!
BUT WHEN THAT HAPPENED, THE TEACHER FOR THAT PERIOD WOULD BE THE ONE MOST INTO IT.
AH HA HA
Especially with a teacher like Sensei here.

the most natural


THIS YEAR? TO GET INTO A GOOD COLLEGE!
THAT MAKES SENSE. WHAT DID YOU WISH FOR?
THIS YEAR, WE WATCHED THE FIRST SHRINE VISITS OF THE YEAR ON TV.
At least for New Year's.

OH, AM I?
Excuse me for living.
Wishing about col-lege!
YEAH, MINE WAS PRETTY MUCH THE SAME THING. KAGAMI'S SO UNFEELING!
I WISHED THAT WE COULD ALL BE GOOD FRIENDS THIS YEAR TOO!

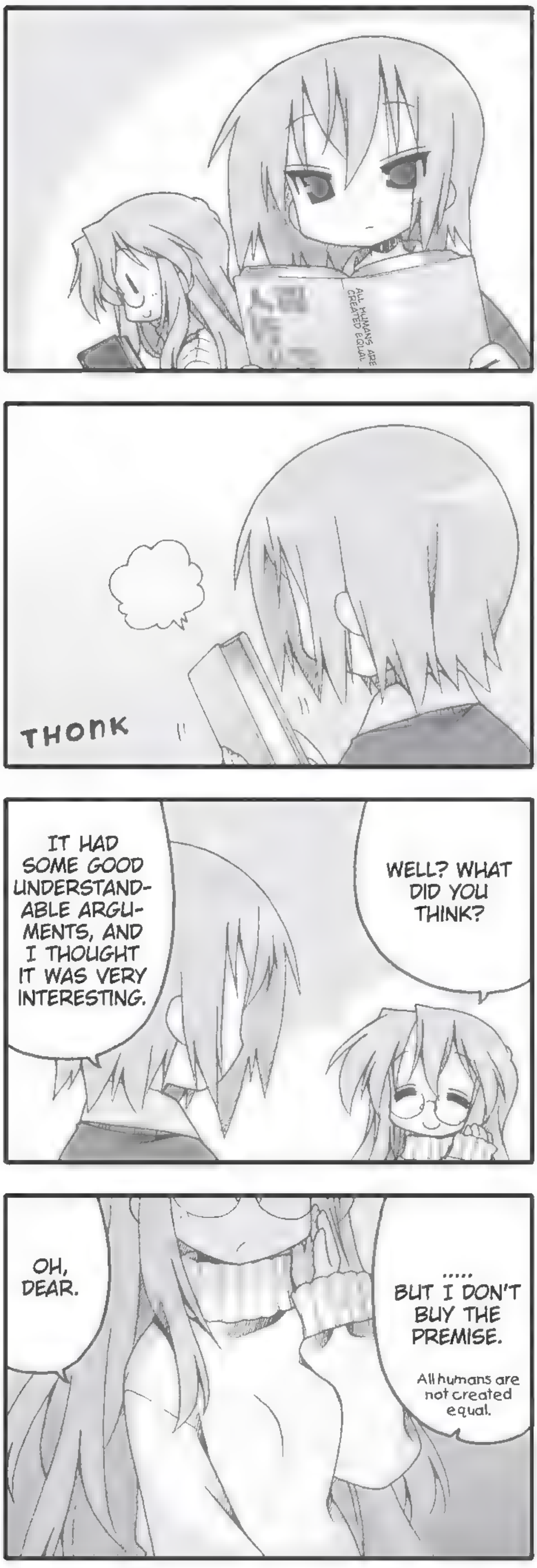
mission failure

Huh? Who cares?
It's my house, after all.

• Misao Kusakabe

What do you expect when it's hot?
Why does everybody tell me to get a clue from Ayano.

episode 157
borderline


not buying in
ALL HUMANS ARE CREATED EQUAL
THONK
IT HAD SOME GOOD UNDERSTAND-ABLE ARGU-MENTS, AND I THOUGHT IT WAS VERY INTERESTING.
WELL? WHAT DID YOU THINK?
OH, DEAR.
.....
BUT I DON'T BUY THE PREMISE.
All humans are not created equal.

● Comptiq, February 2008 issue

attempted, but...

GM

GM

GM GM GM

.....Okay. But I'll take out the onions first.

HAHH HAHH

the spirit of challenge

SHE SAID SHE FORGOT HER LUNCH AND WENT TO BUY SOMETHING.

UM... IS ONEE-CHAN HERE?

I brought her lunch box.

Yo!

Hello.

Oh, Yu-chan! Yo!

I'M BACK! IT WAS SO COLD TODAY, SO I BOUGHT NIKU-MAN PORK BUNS!

CAN YOU KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN WHEN YOU SAY THINGS LIKE THAT?

You're embarrassing me.

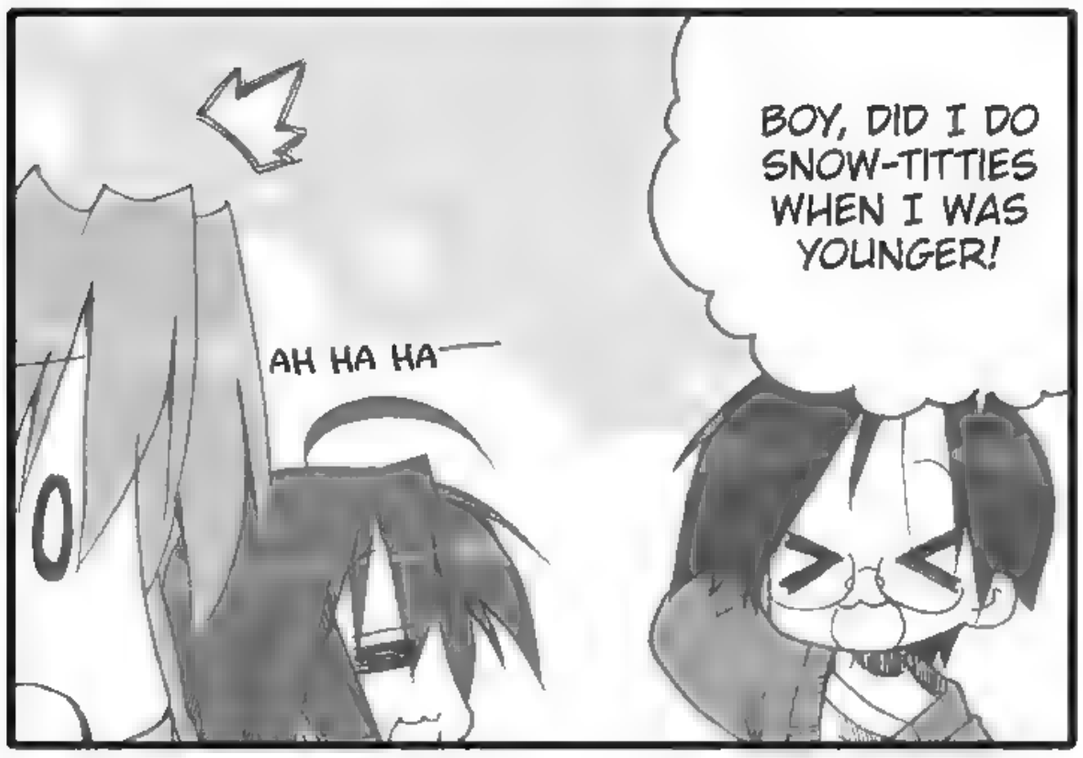
HEY LOOK, KAGAMI! TITTIES! TITTIES!

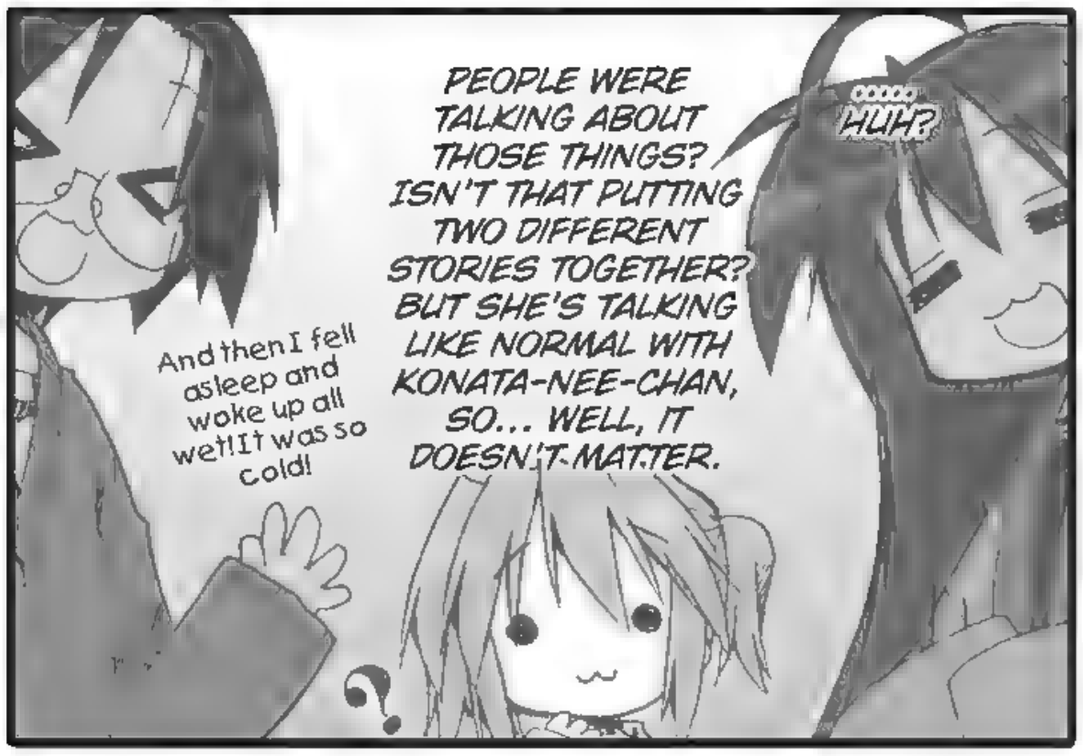
?

.....

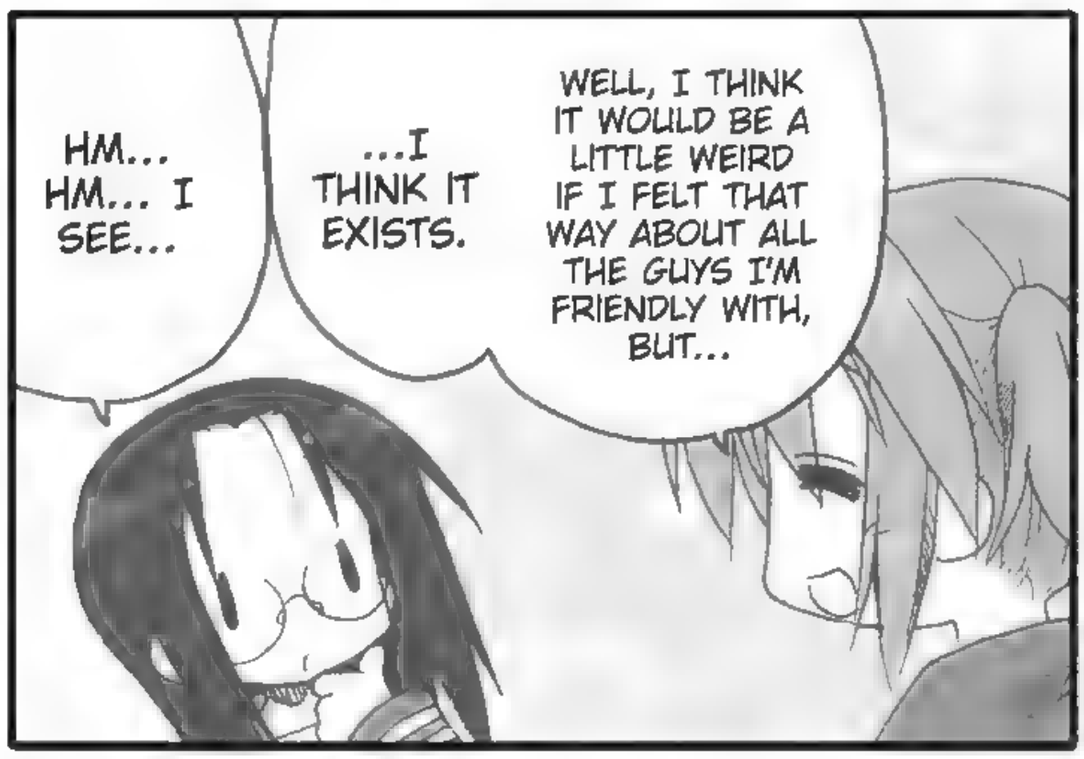
Titties! Titties!

katamari damacy




And then I fell asleep and woke up all wet! It was so cold!
PEOPLE WERE TALKING ABOUT THOSE THINGS? ISN'T THAT PUTTING TWO DIFFERENT STORIES TOGETHER? BUT SHE'S TALKING LIKE NORMAL WITH KONATA-NEE-CHAN, SO... WELL, IT DOESN'T MATTER.
HUH?
?

love



I GET A LITTLE FRIENDLY WITH SOMEBODY, AND THEN THIS. IT'S THE END FOR ME!
THAT'S TRUE, HUH? I GUESS YOU WOULDN'T EVEN UNDER-STAND THE QUESTION.
?
? ?

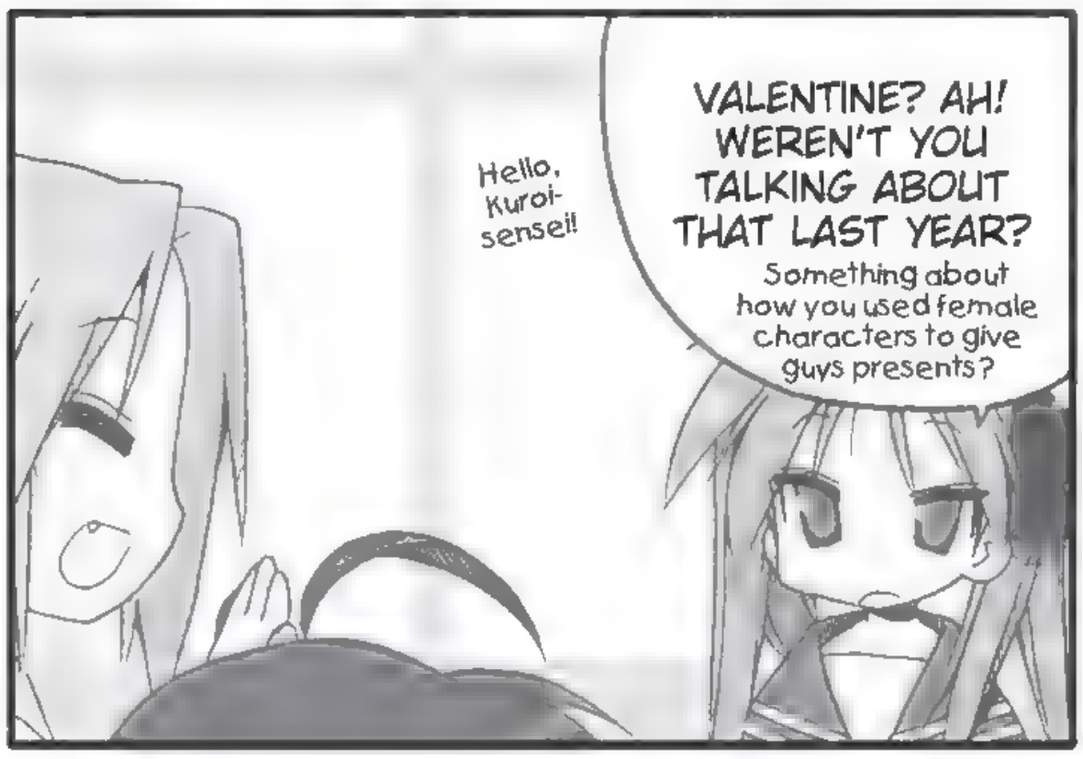
Which one will I wear today? Hm...

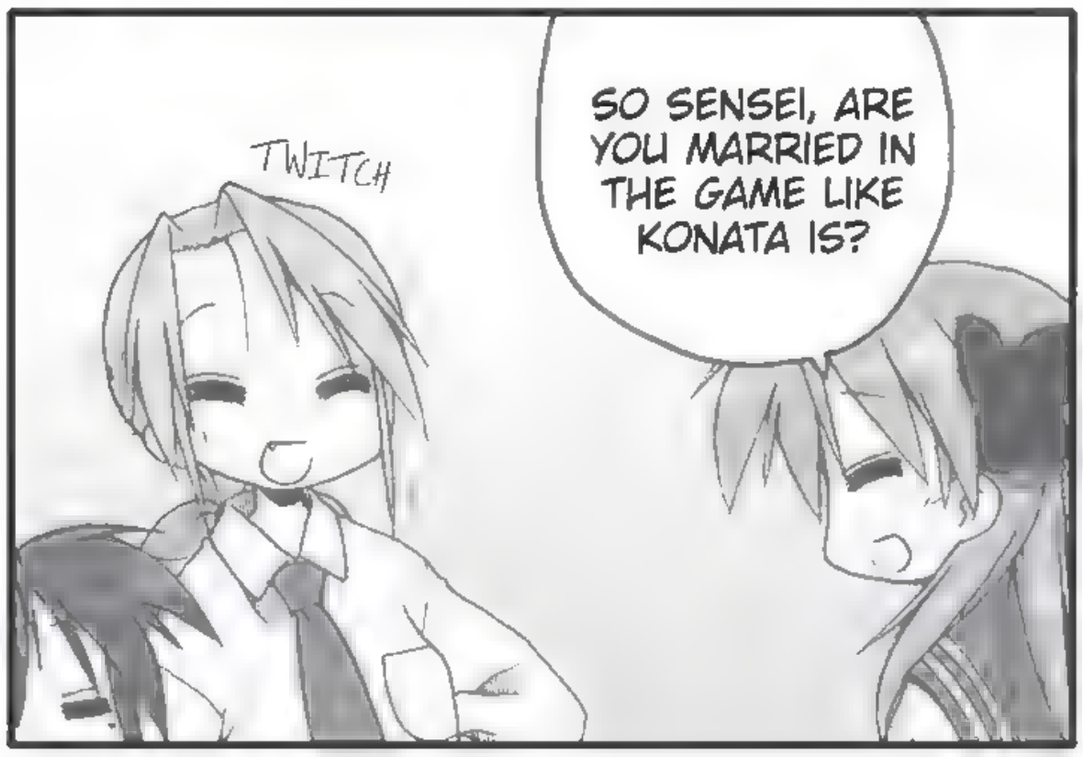
• Ayano Minegishi

Mm? Maybe I'll try a new hairstyle for a change. But if I put too much effort into it, Misa-chan will make fun of me...

time lag

OH, SORRY! I WAS JUST TALKING WITH SENSEI ABOUT A VALENTINE'S DAY EVENT THEY'RE HAVING FOR A NET GAME.
HEY, KONATA! AREN'T YOU READY YET?


Hello, Kuroi-sensei!
VALENTINE? AH! WEREN'T YOU TALKING ABOUT THAT LAST YEAR?
Something about how you used female characters to give guys presents?



Lucky☆Star

episode 158
inconvenient truth 2

● Comptiq, March 2008 issue

just saying

AWW... AREN'T ANY GOOD MEN GOING TO FALL OUT OF THE SKY FOR ME?

NAW, IT'S SO STIFF AND FORMAL, MY SHOULDERS GET ALL TENSED UP.

No!

No!

SENSEI, AREN'T YOU EVER GOING TO GO ON AN OMIAI MARRIAGE MEETING?

NAW, IT'S JUST SUCH A PAIN TO GO OUT AFTER FINALLY GETTING A DAY OFF!

In summer I like having a beer and watching TV.

In winter eating mikan at my kotatsu is just the best!

WHY DON'T YOU GO OUT TO DIFFERENT PLACES ON YOUR DAYS OFF?

Looking to meet people.

I know I have no right to talk, but..

PEOPLE WHO SAY THEY WANT SOMETHING BUT DON'T REALLY WANT IT ALL THAT MUCH.

THOSE PEOPLE ARE ALL AROUND, HUH?

persona

HIIRAGI... YOUR FOLLOW UP IS JUST MAKING THINGS WORSE.

UM... WH-WHAT I MEANT WAS... IT'S REALLY WEIRD TO GET MARRIED IN A GAME, HUH?

SENSEI, DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING A LITTLE HARD ON YOURSELF?

BUT WHAT'S IT MATTER? WHO CARES? I'M UNMARRIAGEABLE IN GAME LIFE OR IN REAL LIFE, RIGHT?

BUT AREN'T YOU JUST THE SAME THAT WAY?

YOU'RE THE TYPE TO BE BLUNT IN WHAT YOU SAY.

Think so?

I know **exactly** what you're saying.

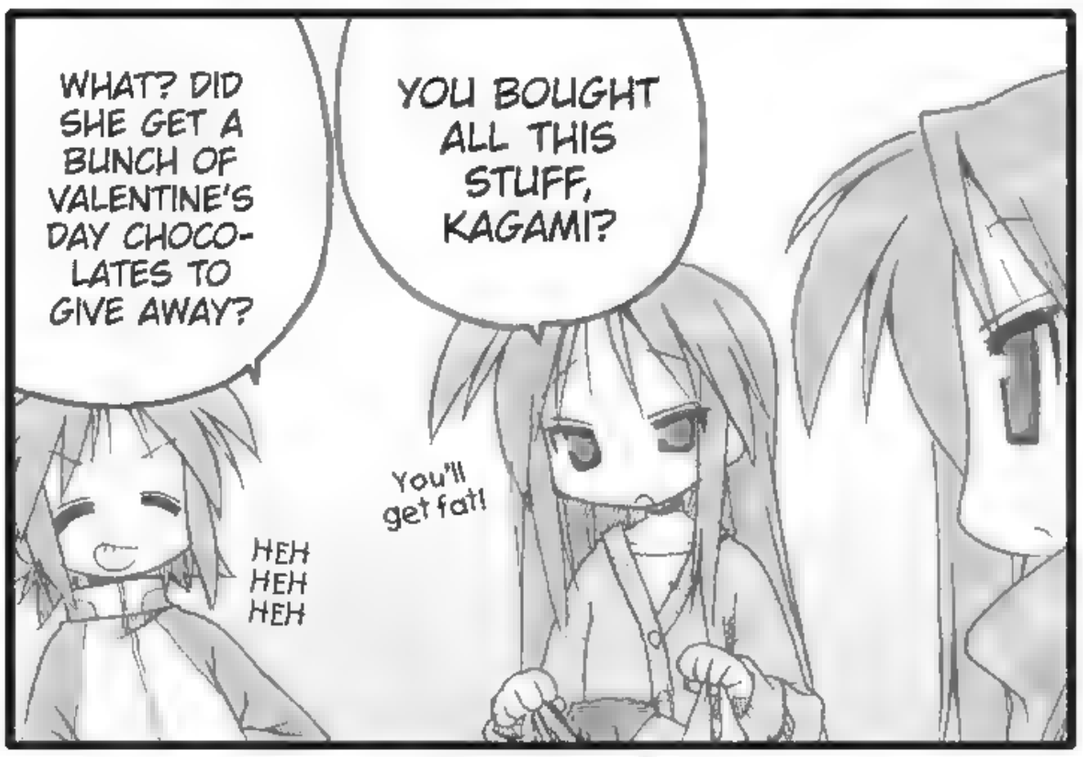
WHEN CONVERSING WITH HER IN THE GAME, YOU GET THE COLD SHIVERS.

Oooo..

HEHN

KAGAMI! IN OUR WORLD, THERE IS SUCH A WORD AS "ROLE PLAY."

noble cause


WHAT? DID SHE GET A BUNCH OF VALENTINE'S DAY CHOCOLATES TO GIVE AWAY?
YOU BOUGHT ALL THIS STUFF, KAGAMI?
You'll get fat!
HEH HEH HEH

WOW, THERE ARE ALL DIFFERENT KINDS!
NOPE! THE STORE HAD A WHOLE BUNCH OF "PASS YOUR EXAMS" SWEETS THAT WERE REACHING THEIR SELL-BY DATES.
Here's hoping you
Here's hoping you
I'm going to change clothes.

I-I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT...
I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU! YOU CAN EAT YOUR SWEETS, AND YOU HAVE A GOOD EXCUSE!
AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED YESTER-DAY.

stop questioning it

HUH? WHAT'S WITH YOU ALL THE SUDDEN?
THEY DON'T EVEN GIVE GIRI-CHOCO-LATE WITHOUT LONG CONSID-ERATION.
BUT LOOK AT THE WORLD-WIDE TSUNDERE BOOM!

LIKE I KEEP SAYING, THERE ARE OTHER THINGS THAT YOU *REALLY* NEED TO BE THINKING OF IN YOUR 3RD YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL.
...LIKE THAT! YOU CAN DENY IT ALL YOU WANT, BUT THE GUY WILL THINK IT'S AN AFFIRMATION SINCE YOU'RE TSUNDERE!
tsun dere!
Besides, I am not

Thank you so much!

What's so good about those books anyway...?

• Kou Yasaka • Yamato Nagamori

Yamato... Don't say things like that here in such a loud voice!

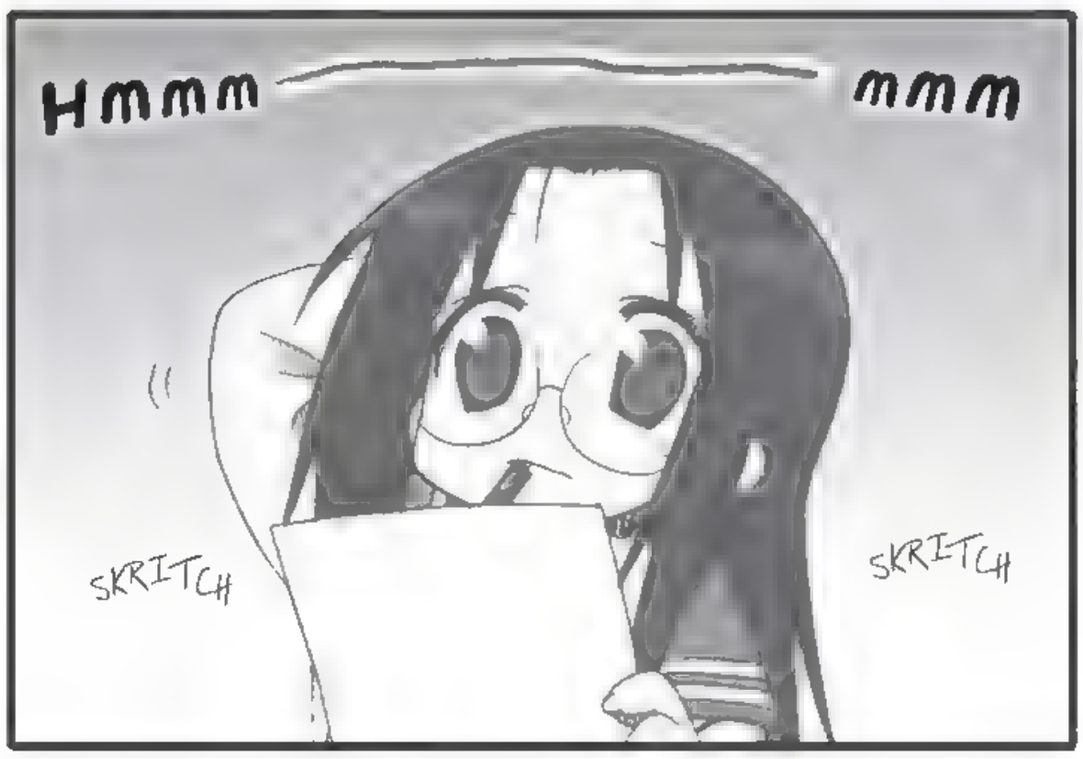
It's all your fault, Kou, for forcing me to be here when you know I say things like that.

It's so great when OO does XX to ΔΔ!! Don't you see that?

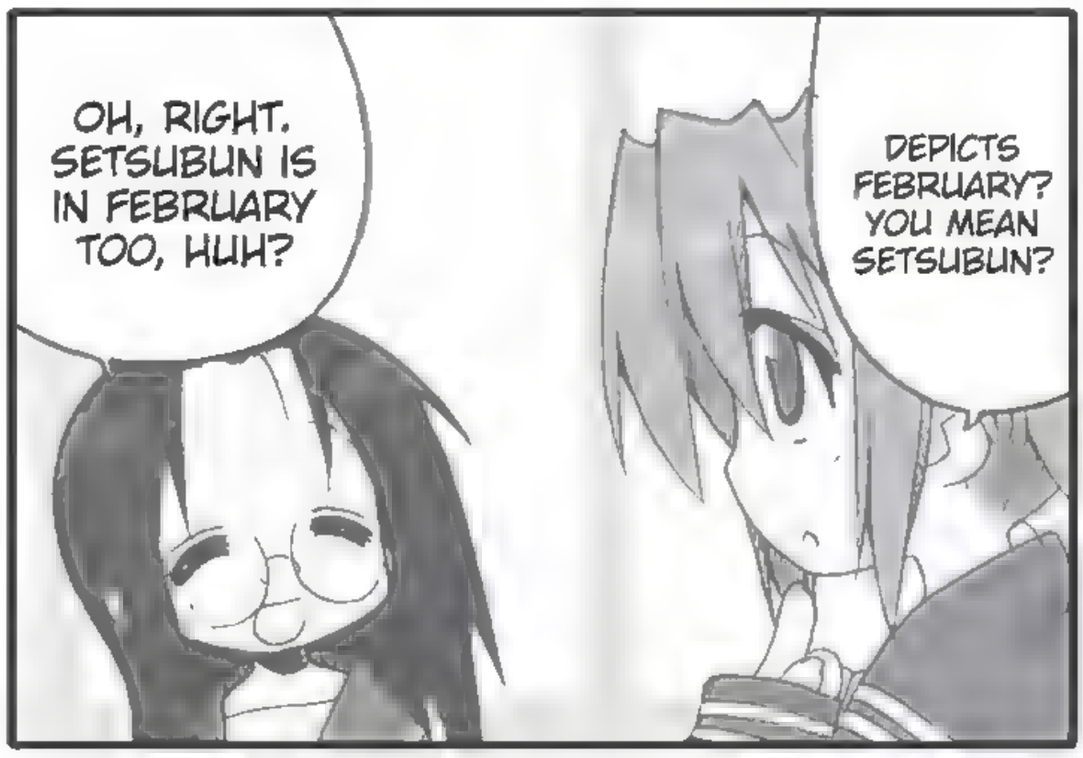
.....Kou, don't say things like that in such a loud voice...

Lucky☆Star

episode 159
mind break

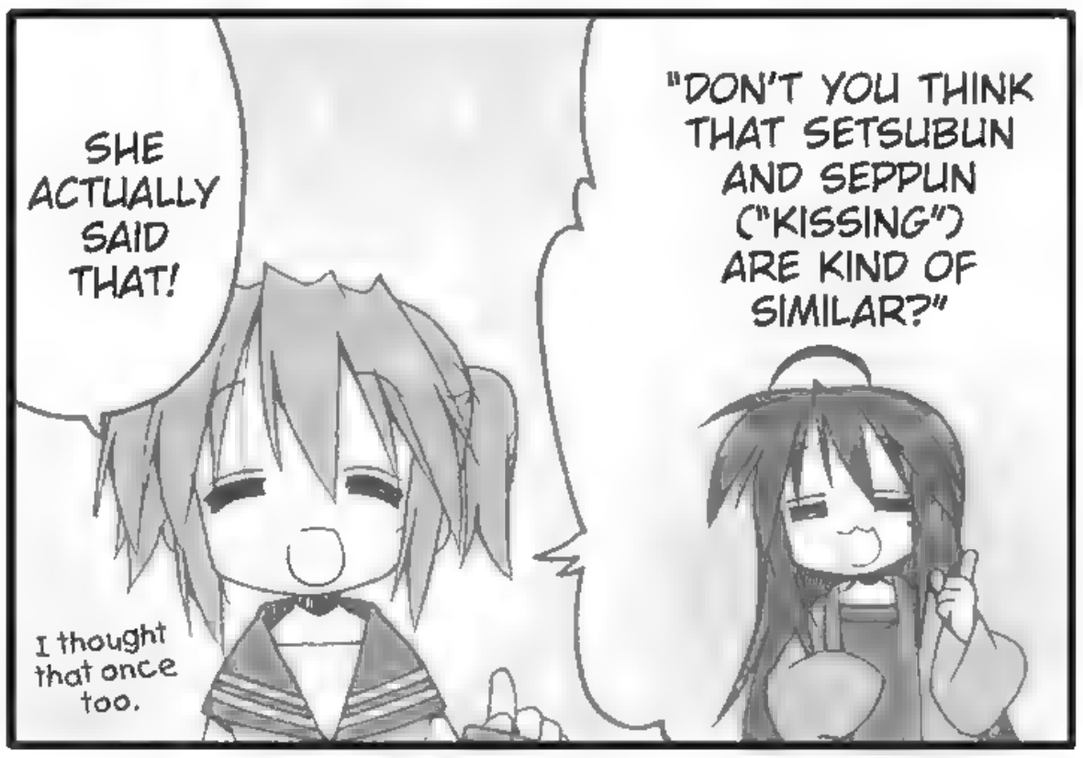


HM? OH, I'M JUST TRYING TO COMPOSE A PICTURE THAT DEPICTS FEBRUARY.
They're going to use it for a February event.
TAMURA-SAN, WHAT'S WRONG?



● Comptiq, March 2008 issue

hiyori begins

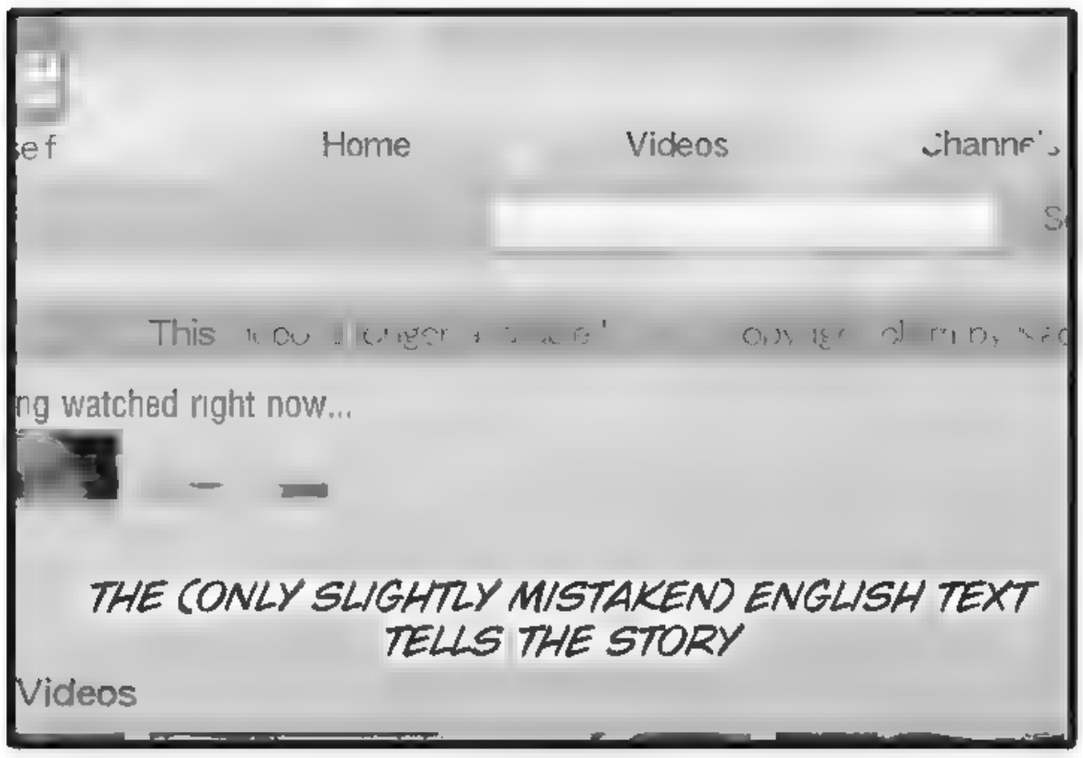


that kind of thought

YOU HAVE TO GIVE OFF MORE OF AN AURA LIKE YOU CARE! OTHERWISE IT'S JUST BORING!
YEAH, I KNOW. I'M SCARY, SO YOU'RE CALLING ME AN ONI, RIGHT?
I thought you'd do this.
Give me some of that Dere dere!
BOOOO!

a recommendation of a recommendation 2

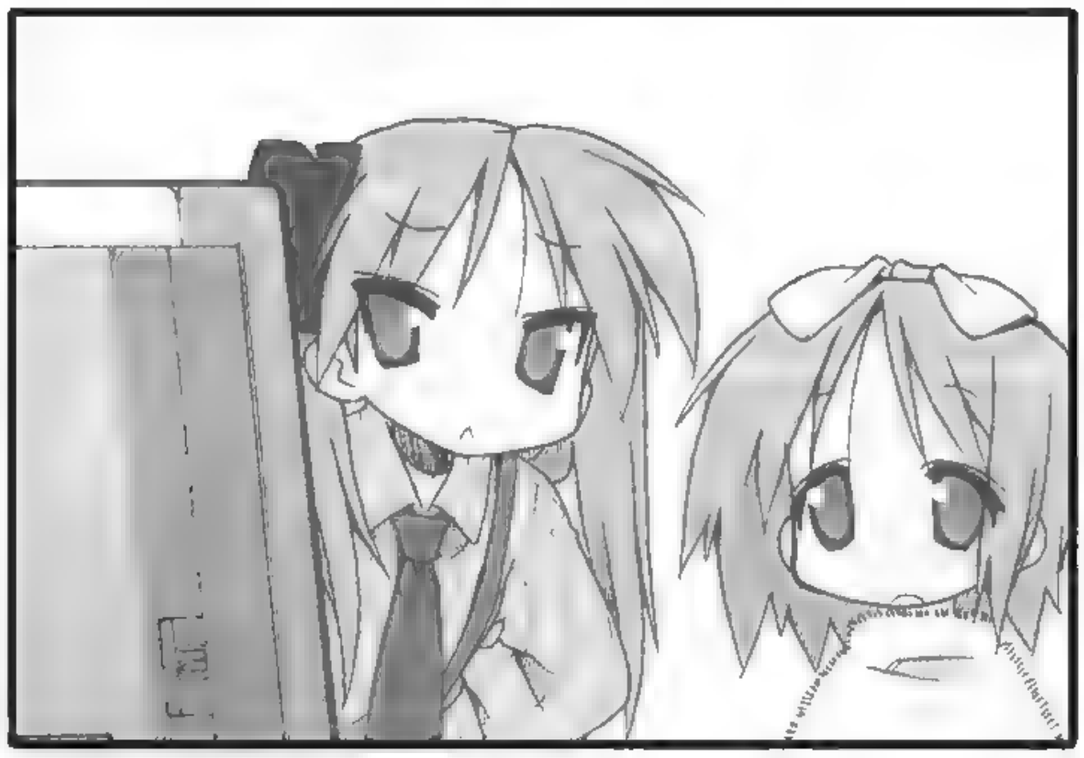
OH, YOU'RE HERE! I FOUND A REALLY INTEREST-ING MOVIE ONLINE AGAIN TODAY!
WE'VE COME TO VISIT!
Welcome!
DON'T BE THAT WAY! THIS TIME, I'M POSITIVE YOU'LL LIKE IT!
YOU'RE DOING THIS AGAIN?
Learn from your mistakes, will you?

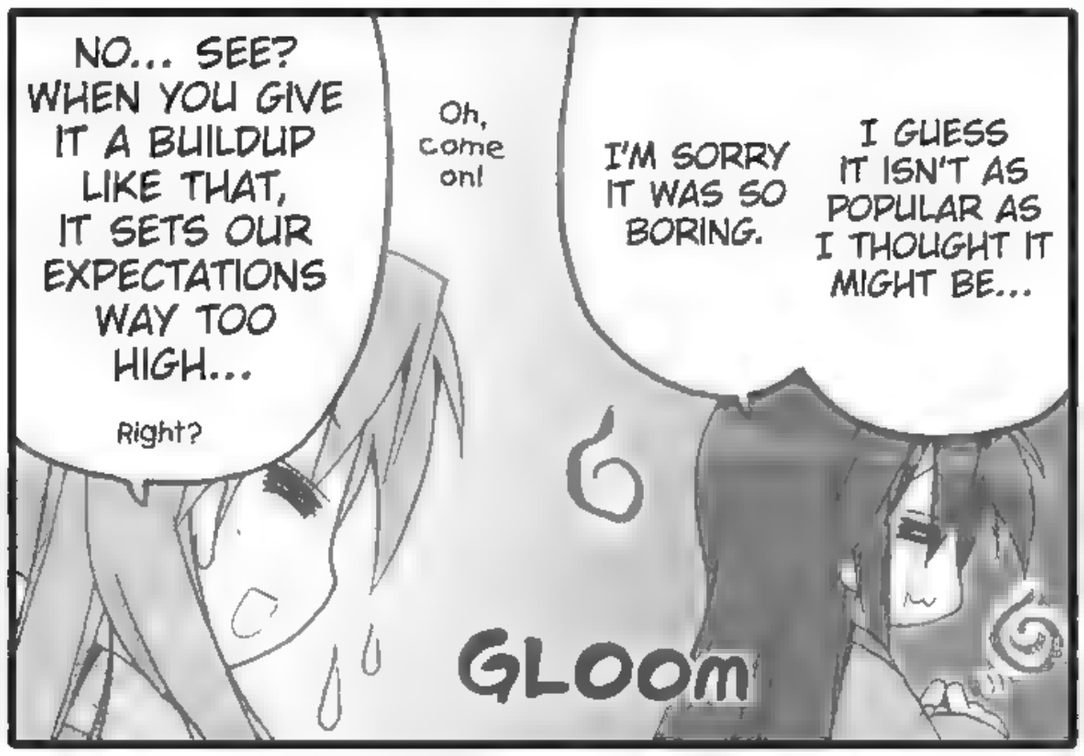


AAAH! THEY TOOK IT DOWN! I ONLY SAW IT PART OF THE WAY THROUGH!
But it was just up yesterday!!
Geez! I wish they'd just officially recognize it!!
GONNG

a recommendation of a recommendation 1

OH, YOU'RE HERE! LOOK! LOOK AT THIS! I FOUND A INTERESTING ANIMATION YESTERDAY!
WE'VE COME TO VISIT!
Welcome!
YEAH, WELL... BUT IT'S REALLY FUNNY! JUST LOOK!
IS THIS THE ONLY WAY YOU SPEND YOUR TIME?
For pity's sake!




NO... SEE? WHEN YOU GIVE IT A BUILDUP LIKE THAT, IT SETS OUR EXPECTATIONS WAY TOO HIGH...
Right?
Oh, come on!
I'M SORRY IT WAS SO BORING.
I GUESS IT ISN'T AS POPULAR AS I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE...
GLOOM

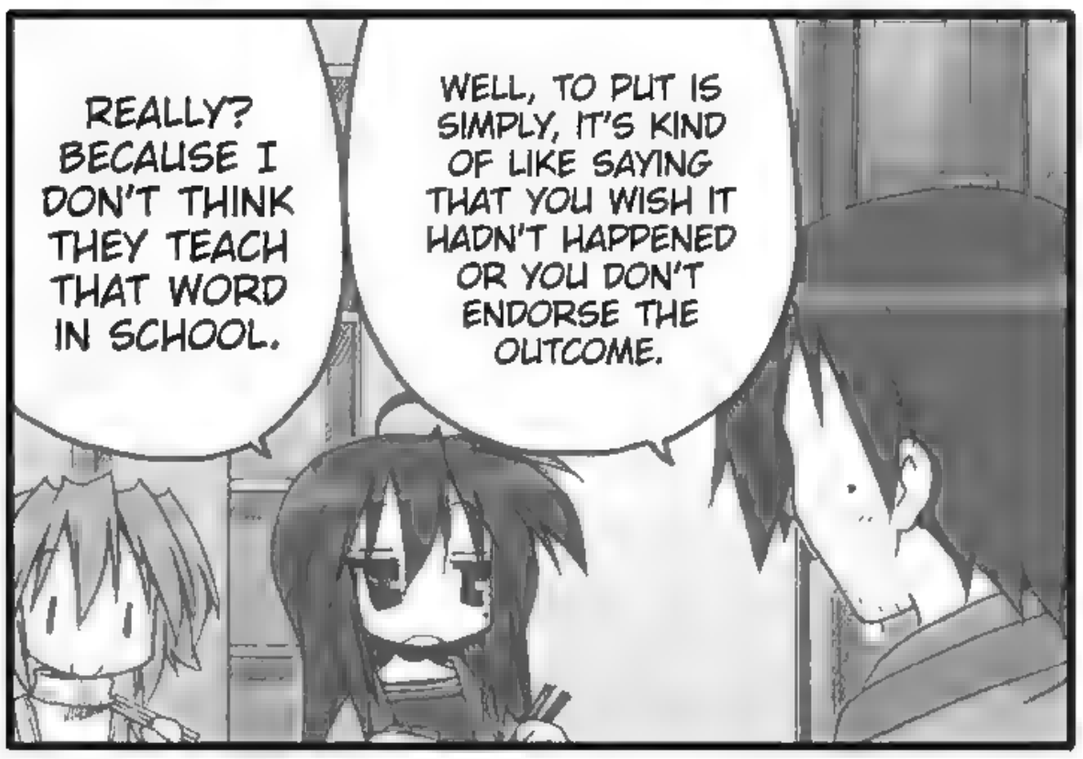
Ah? Yeah... I'll be able to join you right after I tell everybody that I'm signing off.

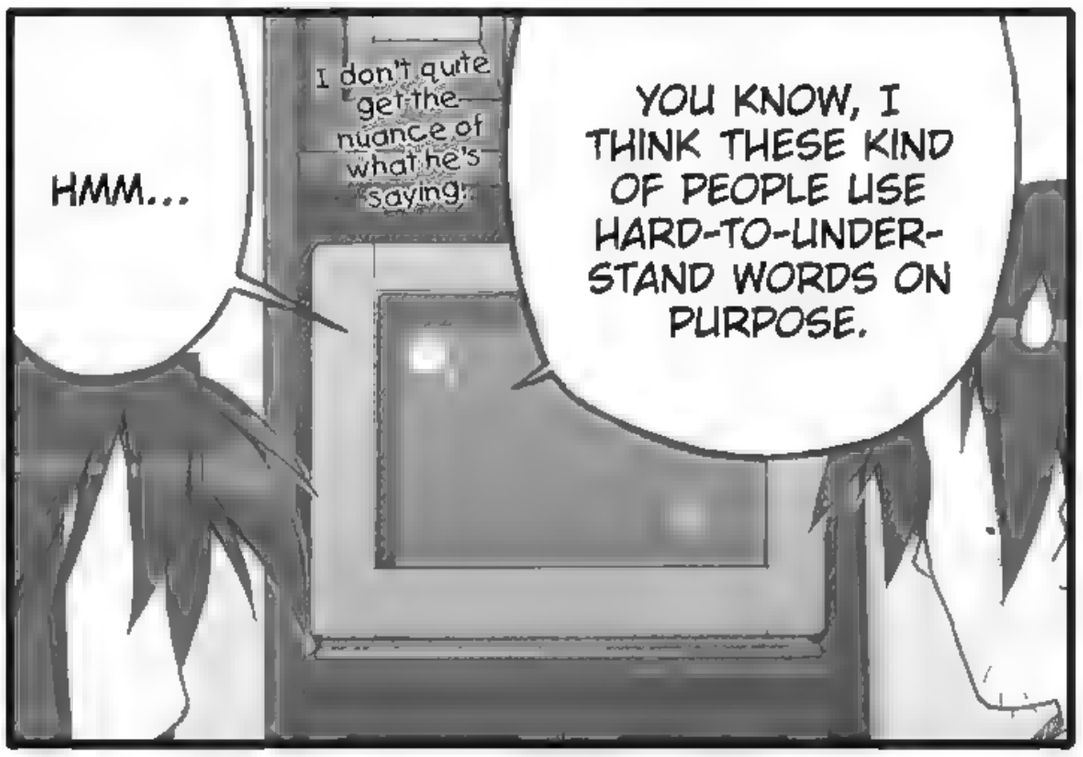
- Yutaka Kobayakawa

I'll just say, "I'm heading out to eat"...
But sometimes that kind of message just starts up a new, long conversation...

Lucky☆Star

episode 160
huge wall


REALLY? BECAUSE I DON'T THINK THEY TEACH THAT WORD IN SCHOOL.
WELL, TO PUT IS SIMPLY, IT'S KIND OF LIKE SAYING THAT YOU WISH IT HADN'T HAPPENED OR YOU DON'T ENDORSE THE OUTCOME.

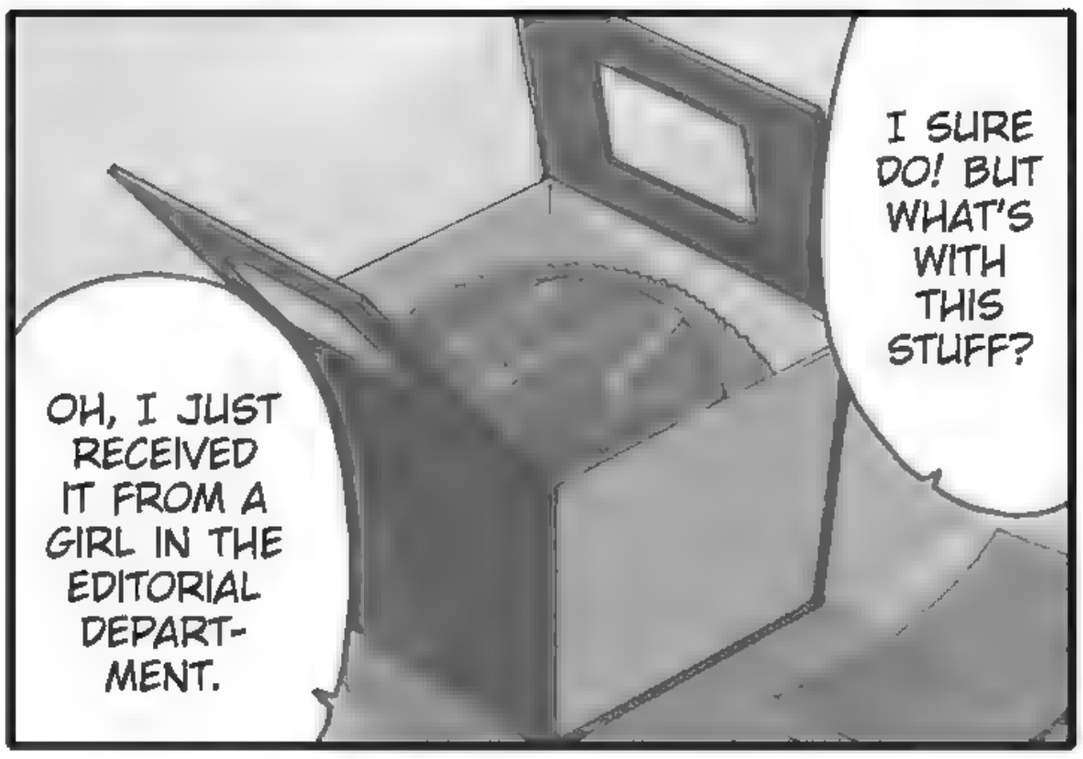

HMM...
I don't quite get the nuance of what he's saying.
YOU KNOW, I THINK THESE KIND OF PEOPLE USE HARD-TO-UNDER-STAND WORDS ON PURPOSE.

● Comptiq, April 2008 issue

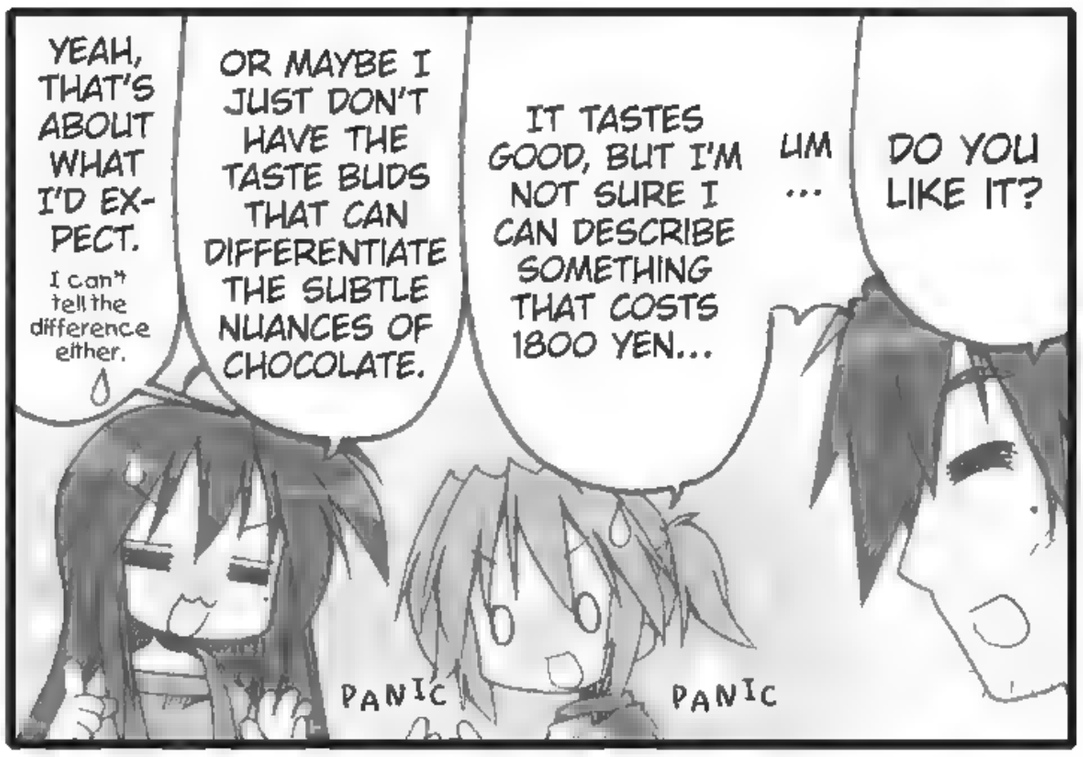
reset

WELL... WELL A GIRL CAN GO BACK TO SLEEP, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU GET TO CONTINUE THE SAME DREAM. RIGHT...?
'SUP! WHAT'S WRONG, HIYORI?
Good morning.

sublime taste



ABOUT $20.

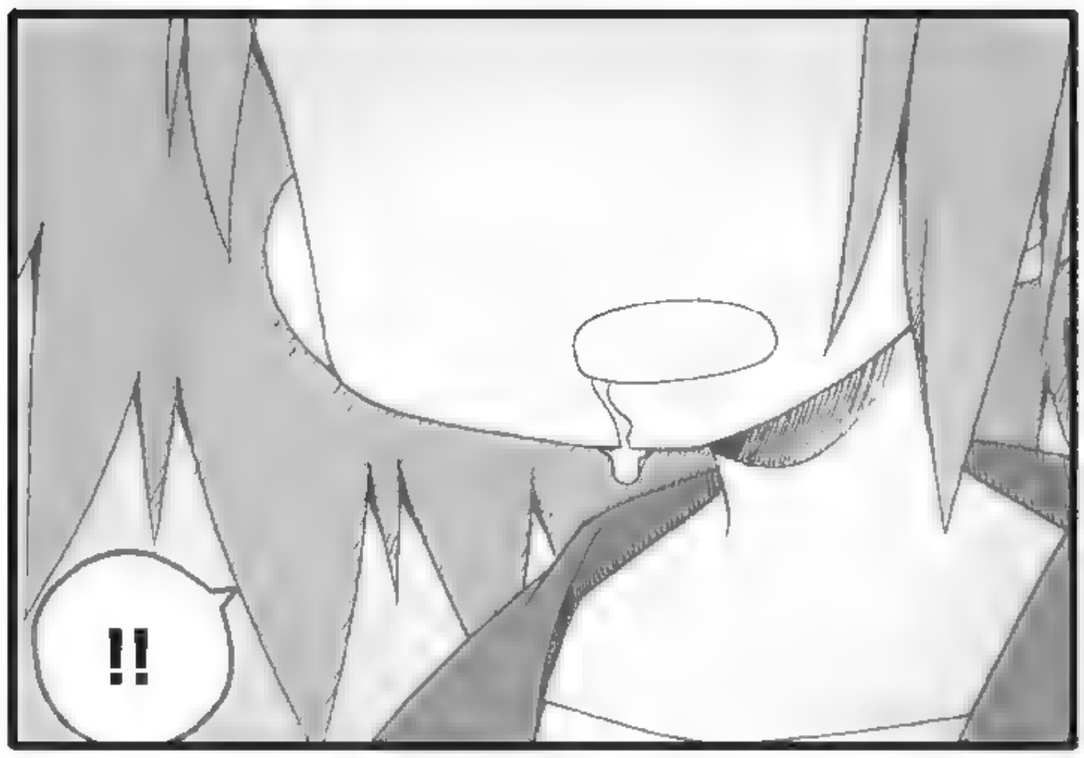

YEAH, THAT'S ABOUT WHAT I'D EX-PECT.
I can't tell the difference either.
OR MAYBE I JUST DON'T HAVE THE TASTE BUDS THAT CAN DIFFERENTIATE THE SUBTLE NUANCES OF CHOCOLATE.
IT TASTES GOOD, BUT I'M NOT SURE I CAN DESCRIBE SOMETHING THAT COSTS 1800 YEN...
UM ...
DO YOU LIKE IT?
PANIC
PANIC

no way out

YES, I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT HAPPENS.
STILL, I CAN SEE HOW, WHEN YOU KNOW EVERYTHING, YOU CAN ALSO GET SLEEPY, HUH?
You can get sleepy when everything is too easy and below your level.

And has nothing to do with understanding.
I THINK IT ALL HAS TO DO WITH YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARD WHAT THEY'RE TRYING TO TEACH.
SO WHAT IS A PERSON SUPPOSED TO DO ABOUT IT?
BUT IF THAT'S TRUE, YOU GET SLEEPY WHEN YOU BOTH KNOW AND WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW.

just slightly out



..... (You've got cute eyes)

• Minami Iwasaki

..... Ah... (Looks away) I made a mistake.
..... When I made weird sounds, Cherry ran away...

actually concerned

SO I WANT EVERYONE TO THINK ABOUT WHAT WORDS GAVE YOU A BAD SHOCK.
THIS IS THE FIRST MEETING OF THE WORDS CAN HURT TOO ASSOCIATION.
THAT'S A LITTLE TOO REALISTIC. IT DOESN'T EVEN MAKE ME SMILE!
FOR EXAMPLE, I'D BE SHOCKED THE FIRST TIME I EVER HEARD SOMEBODY SAY, "KEEP AWAY FROM ME! YOU'RE CREEPY!" LIKE THAT.
IS THIS ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR SUDDEN ...
AND IF TSUKASA...
KONATA SAYS OFFENSIVE STUFF ALL THE TIME, SO ASKING ME NOW IS A WASTE OF TIME.
I COULDN'T EVEN IMAGINE MIYUKI UTTERING AN OFFENSIVE WORD TO ME.
I-I WOULDN'T SAY THAT!! I NEVER EVEN THOUGHT IT!!
...TOLD ME, "ONEE-CHAN, YOU DON'T NEED TO MAKE OUR LUNCH BOXES FROM NOW ON. I'LL DO EVERYTHING MYSELF." THAT WOULD BE A REAL SHOCK.
SMILE
SMILE

Lucky☆Star

episode 161
a moment of shock

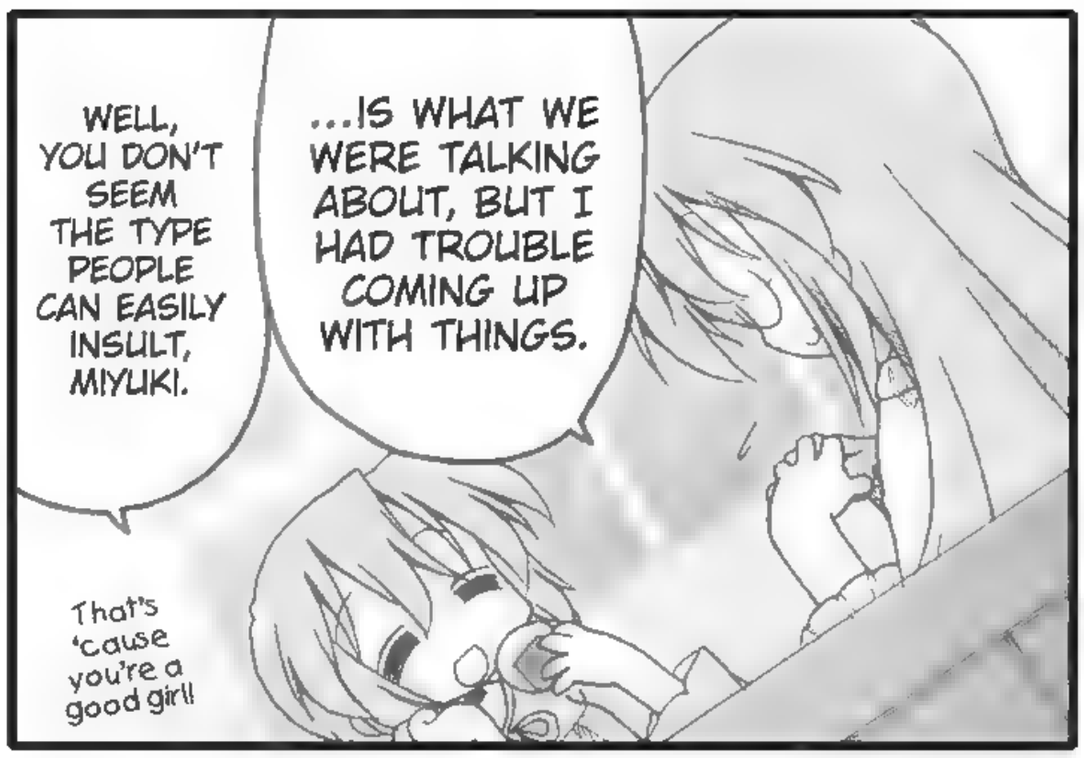
● Comptiq, April 2008 issue

finishing blow

SOME-THING I'D BE SHOCKED TO HEAR SOMEONE SAY TO ME...?
If you or Yu-chan called me a loli-con or pervert, that would be a huge shock.
Both of which are true, though.

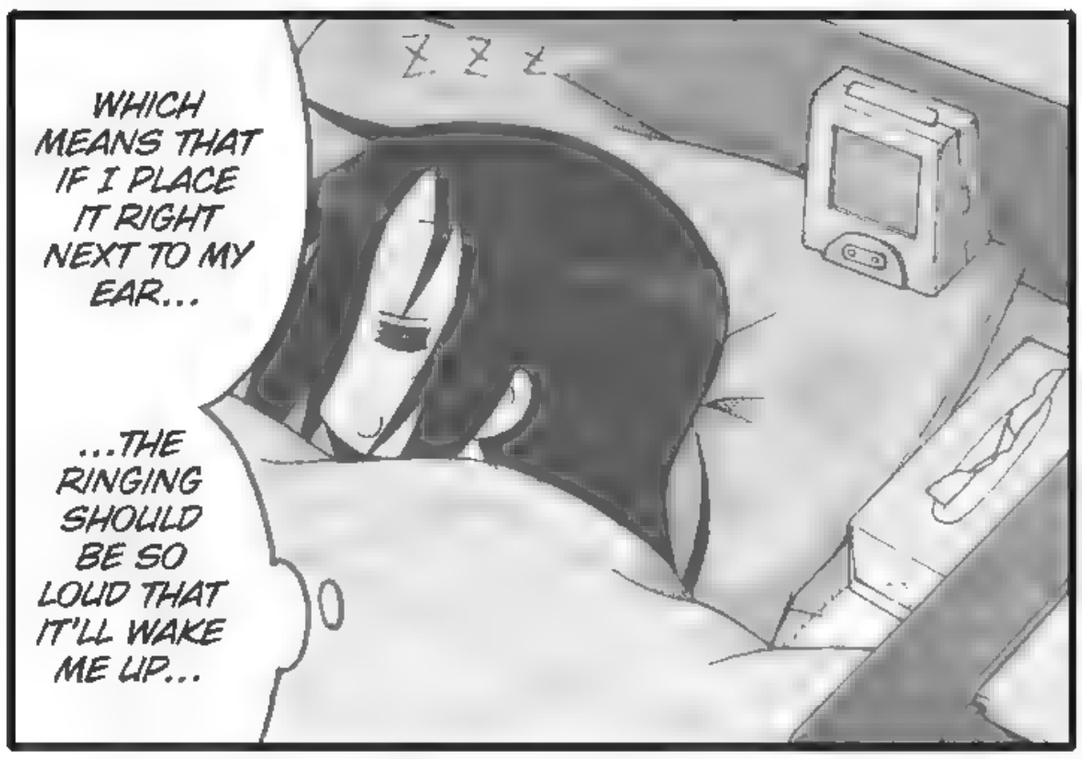
YOU KNOW, THAT'S PRETTY BAD ITSELF, ONEE-CHAN!
Ah, but it seems you haven't recog-nized that it's your fate yet.
BUT, YOU KNOW... EVERY NOW AND AGAIN BOWING TO FATE IS GOOD FOR YOU, YU-CHAN.
GONNG

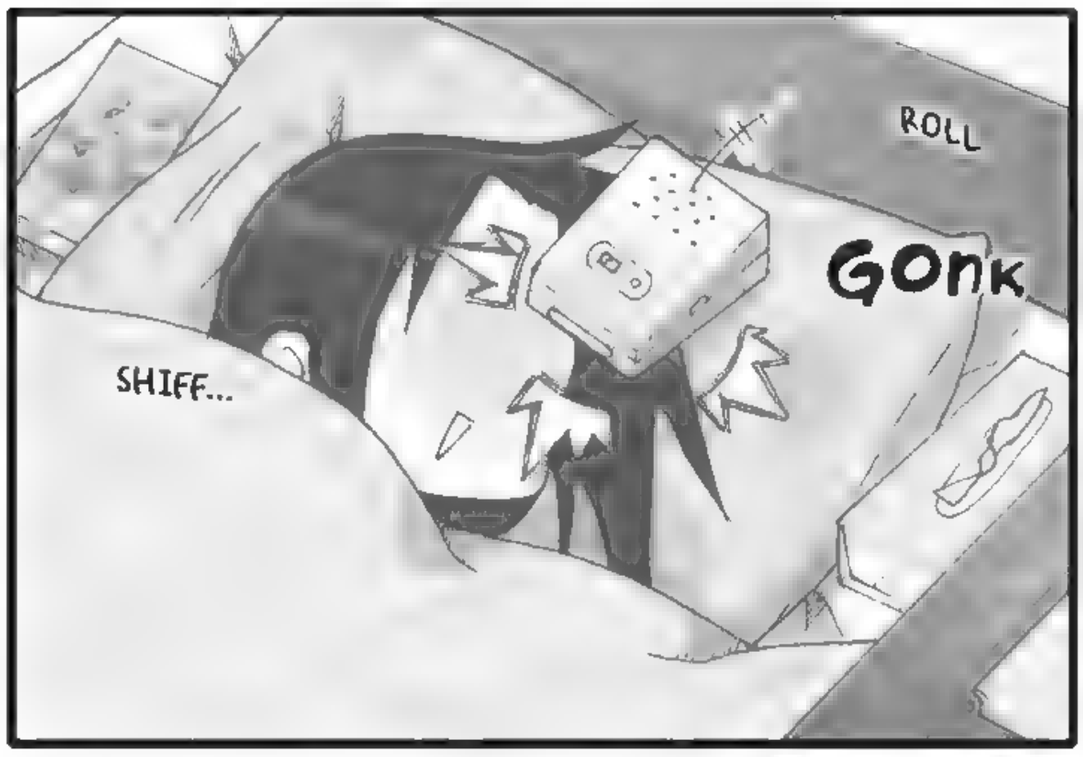
a bitter blow


WELL, YOU DON'T SEEM THE TYPE PEOPLE CAN EASILY INSULT, MIYUKI.
...IS WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT, BUT I HAD TROUBLE COMING UP WITH THINGS.
That's 'cause you're a good girl!

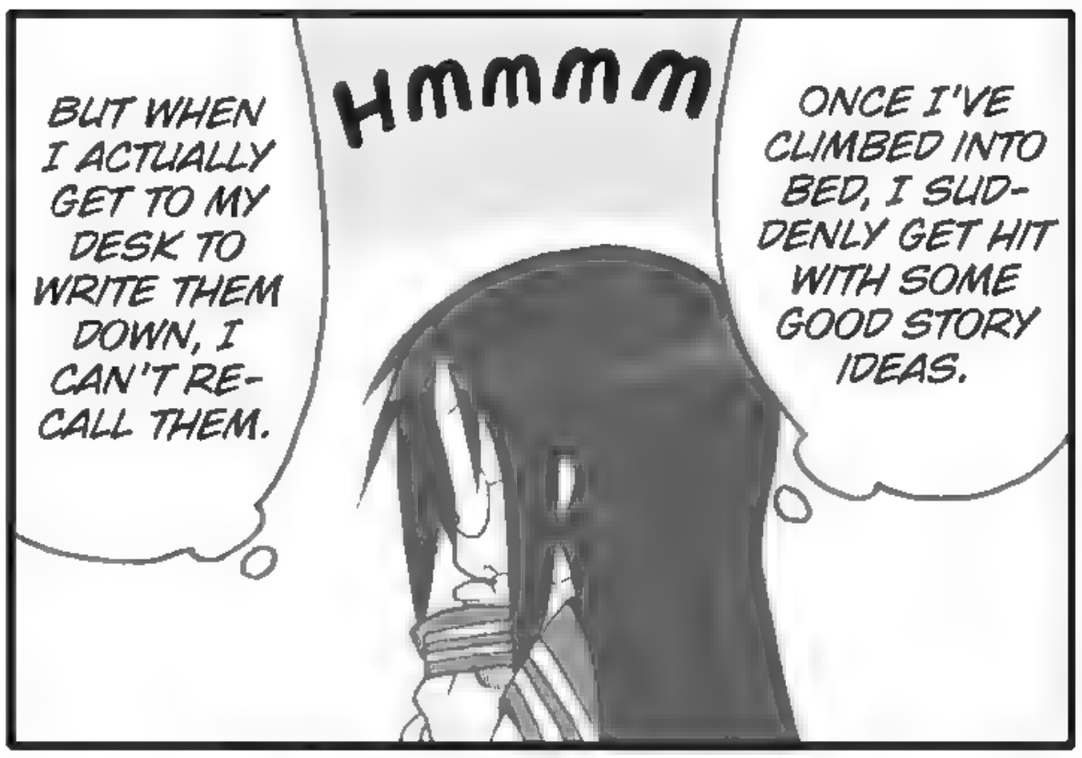
TH-THAT'S ENOUGH! STOP BEFORE I GET TO THE POINT WHERE I CAN'T RE-COVER!
"You're less their friend and more their guard-ian." Or maybe...
OR, "YOU SEEM A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM THEM. ARE YOU SURE TSUKASA AND THE GIRLS ARE YOUR FRIENDS?" OR SOMETHING LIKE...
STOP! STOP!

the shock 2





the shock 1


BUT WHEN I ACTUALLY GET TO MY DESK TO WRITE THEM DOWN, I CAN'T RE-CALL THEM.
HMMMM
ONCE I'VE CLIMBED INTO BED, I SUD-DENLY GET HIT WITH SOME GOOD STORY IDEAS.

Ahhhh... Oh, man...
This is heaven! Heaven!

• Hiyori Tamura

You know, a tub has a great atmosphere!
But sometimes I stay in too long and get dizzy...

next!

It's really a pain to go to the door every single time!
GM GM GM
YOU LITTLE... CAN'T ALL YOU GUYS COME AT THE SAME TIME?! HON-ESTLY!!
GM GM

Lucky☆Star

episode 162
gradually, gradually

● Comptiq, May 2008 issue

how to enjoy the game

AKIRA KOGAMI? IT SEEMS THAT I'VE HEARD THAT NAME SOMEWHERE BEFORE...

THERE ARE PLENTY OF PEOPLE PLAYING IT.

It's one of those where a person's normal default name has already been used.

IN THIS GAME, YOU GIVE YOURSELF THE NAME OF A CELEBRITY THAT YOU LIKE.

THAT ISN'T NECESSARILY THE CASE.

IT MUST BE NICE FOR YOU. BEING ABLE TO FIND LOADS OF OTHER PEOPLE LIKE YOURSELF.

WHOA! HARDCORE OTAKU CAN BE SCARY!

I DON'T THINK I CAN FORGIVE THAT KIND OF BEHAVIOR.

I wonder what they think they're up to!

It's like they dirty the character's name!

THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO TAKE A NAME, BUT DON'T TRY TO MATCH THE CHARACTER'S LOOKS OR SPEECH MANNERISMS.

attempt to move forward

OH! COME ON IN!

'SUP! WE'VE COME TO VISIT!

HOW ABOUT YOU? YOU WANT TO GIVE IT A TRY?

You're done with exams, right?

YOU'RE HARD AT IT AS ALWAYS.

NET GAME...

WHY'S THAT?

But even so, I'm not really interested in trying.

?

...BUT IF YOU GUYS DO IT, YOU'D BE BETTER STARTING WITH FEMALE CHARACTERS.

I'M USING A MALE CHARACTER...

...BUT I'M STILL SURPRISED AT HOW THEY CAN POUR THEIR FEELINGS INTO A COMPUTER-GENERATED IMAGE.

I KNOW THERE ARE PEOPLE LIKE YOU WHO REALLY GET INTO IT...

They give you rare items and guard you in the battles!

IF YOU PLAY A CUTE FEMALE CHARACTER, EVERYBODY TREATS YOU REALLY NICE!

rude under a mask of politeness

I-IT'S SO DIFFICULT!
I was so embar-rassed.
THE SAME WORDS, WHEN SPOKEN BY SOMEBODY ELSE, CAN LEAVE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT IMPRESSION.

WHEN YOU SUDDENLY PICK ME, I GET SO NERVOUS THAT I SIMPLY CAN NO LONGER FIND WORDS!
TEE HEE
I-IZUMI-SAN, YOU SAY THE MOST UNIQUE THINGS, IT'S FUN TO LISTEN TO YOU.

YOU *TOLD* ME TO DO IT, YOU KNOW!!
...I GET THE FEELING THAT YOU ARE RE-ALLY MAKING FUN OF ME!
WHOA! KAG-AMI, WHEN YOU SPEAK POLITE LAN-GUAGE...
Like you're looking down your nose on me!

don't hit me!

...I START TO GET THE FEELING THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO PICK A FIGHT!!
MIYUKI-SAN... WHEN YOU SPEAK LESS POLITELY...
Although I have to admit that what she's saying is pretty Kagami like.

You want to know if I'm studying?
I sure am! I'm studying the best
Japan has to offer!

- Patricia Martin

And at the rate I'm learning, I'll be totally fluent by next year!!
Manga is both fun and study material!
Two birds with one stone, right?

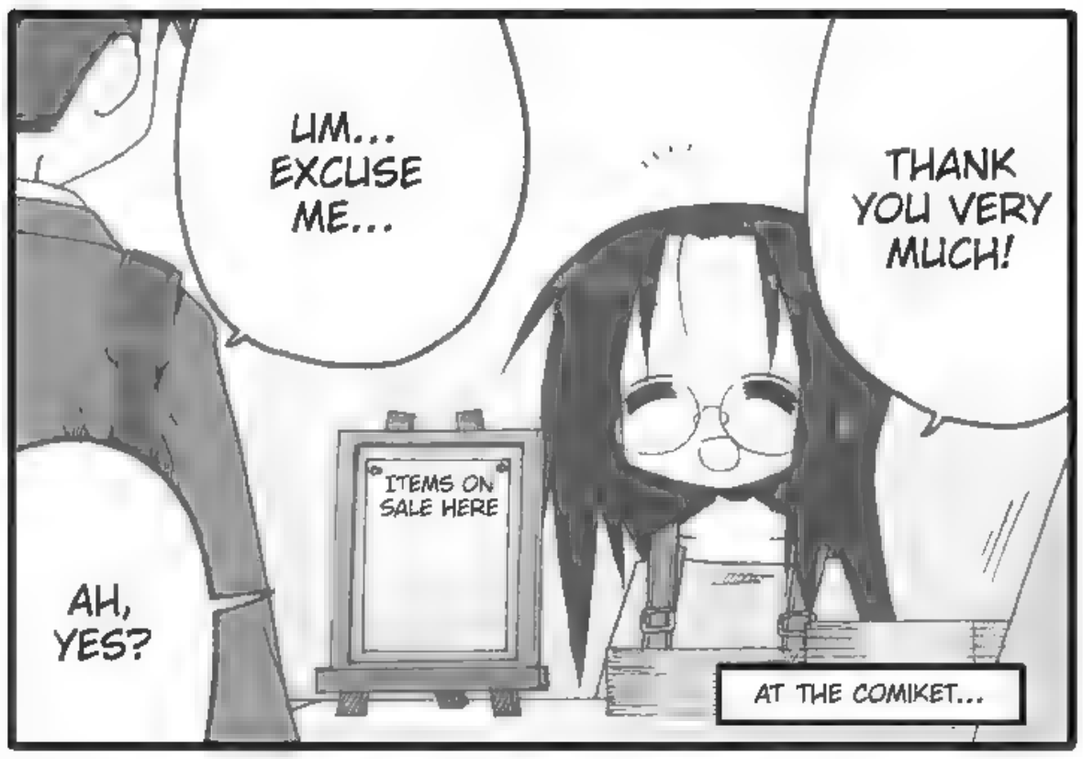
episode 163
unexpected instant

the never-ending journey

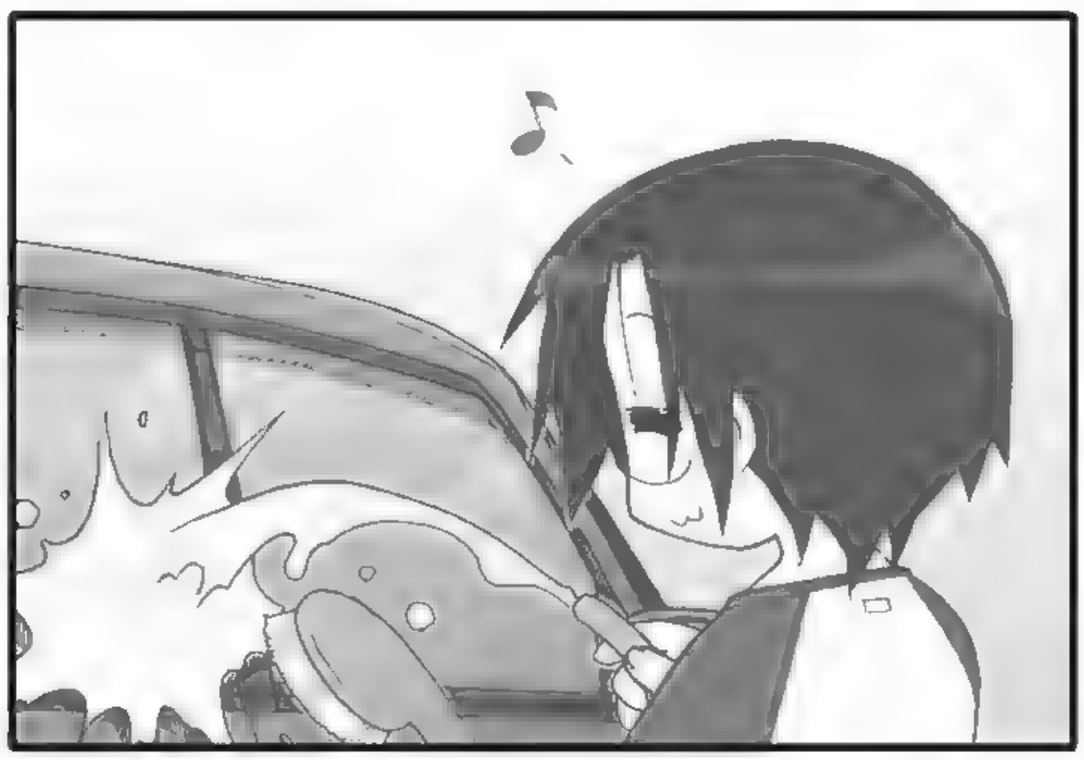
WELL, IT'S JUST CURRY POWDER. NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU STIR, IT KEEPS CLUMPING UP.
Doesn't it make you crazy?
.....
WHAT *ARE* YOU DOING?
That really smells!

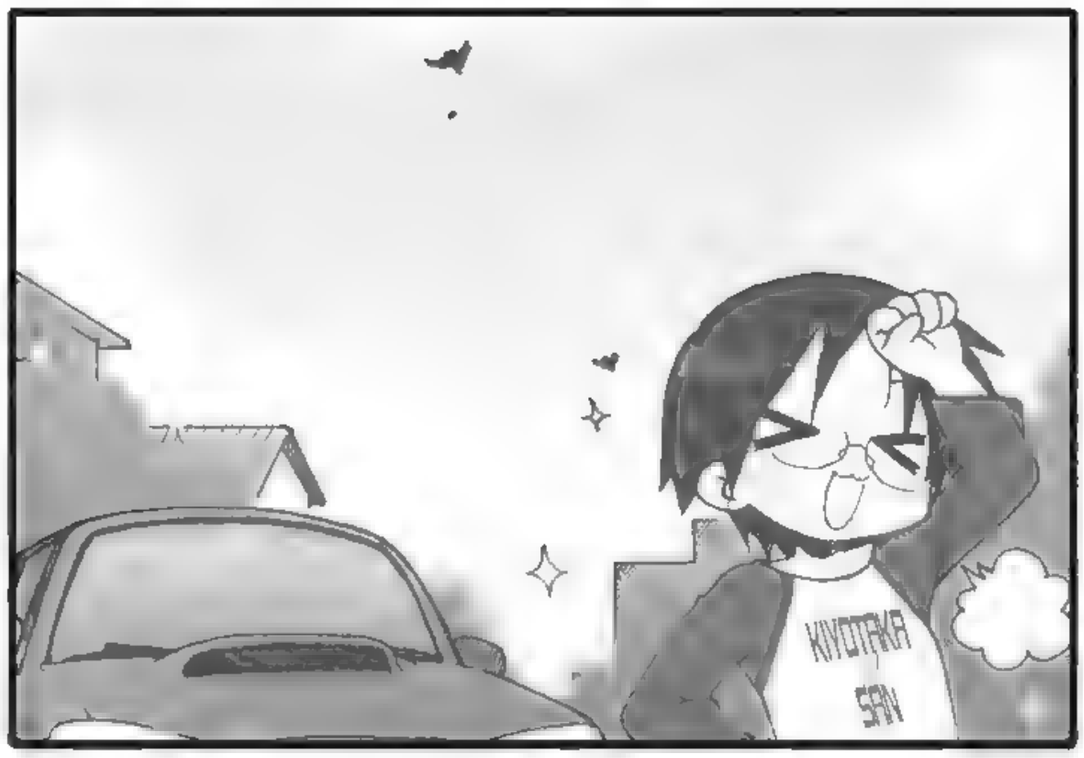
● Comptiq, May 2008 issue

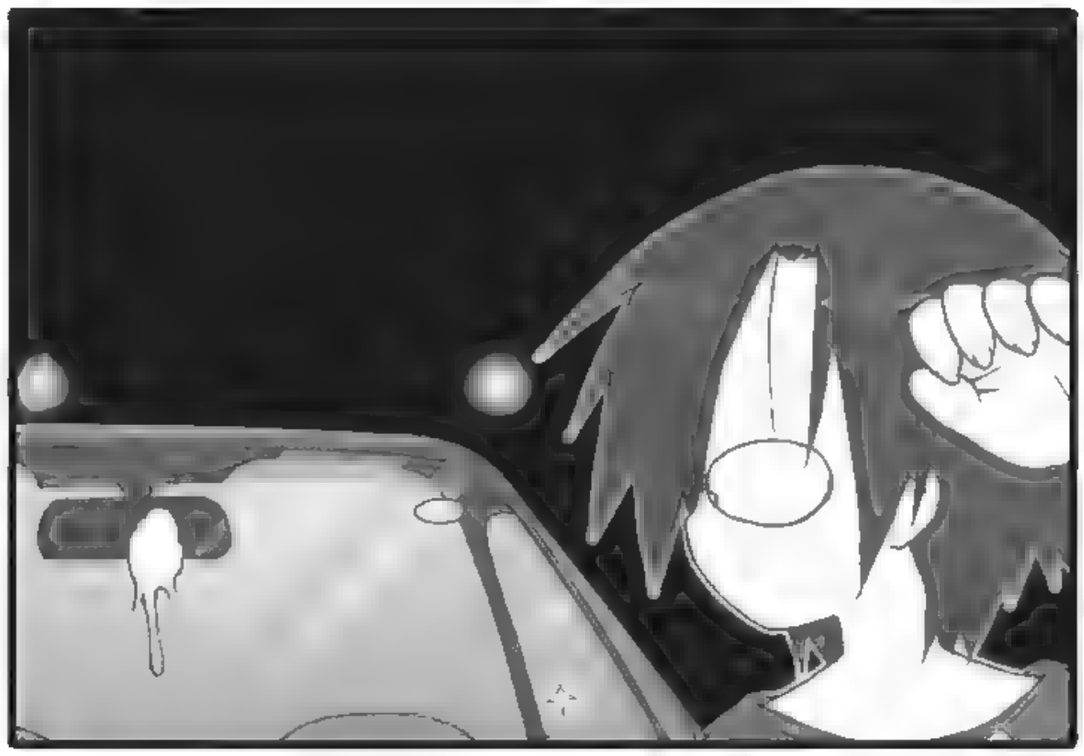
the dream and the reality



only at times like this



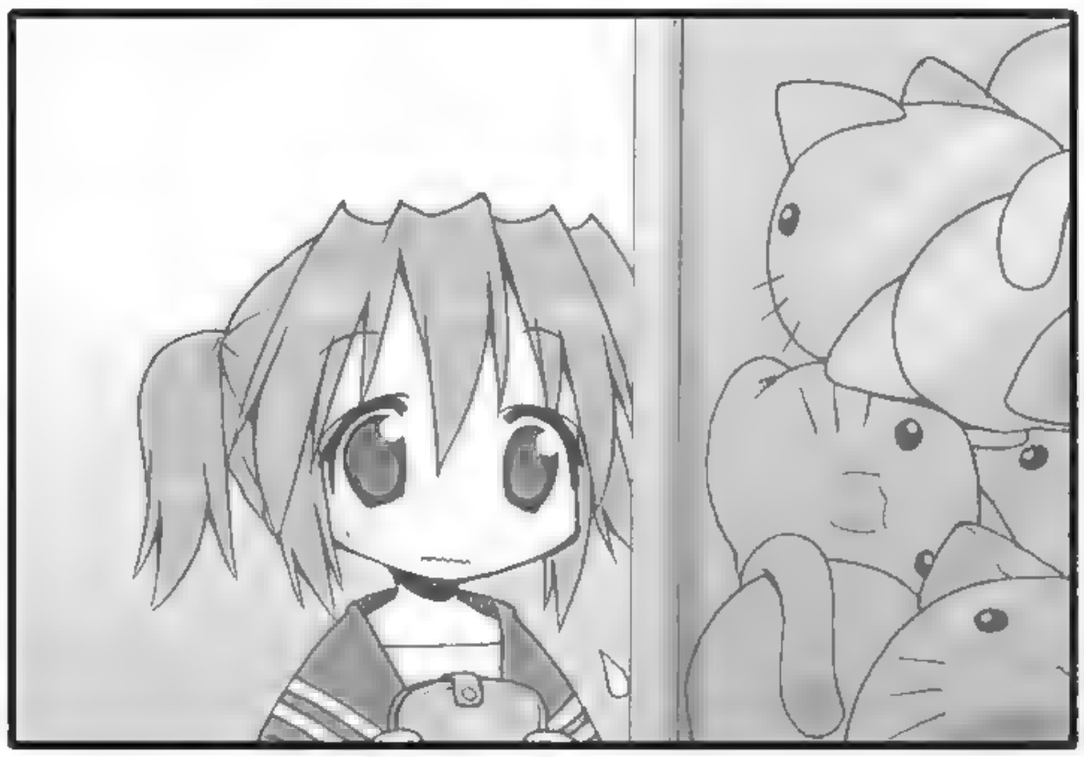




black mark

That I'm the only one who looks like an otaku? Or that my face isn't at their cuteness level? Or that I'm the "three's a crowd" one of us three?
SO SEMPAI, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
.....
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO SAY THIS, BUT HIYORI, YOU LOOK OUT OF PLACE.
There are too many ways that can be taken.

a sense of value



THEY'RE ALL OVER! GAME-CENTER BEGINNERS THAT PUT UP A FIGHT BE-FORE THEY PUT ANY MONEY INTO THE GAME.
EH?! OH, UM... I WONDER IF I SHOULD...
IF YOU WANT ONE THAT MUCH, THEN GIVE THE GAME A TRY.

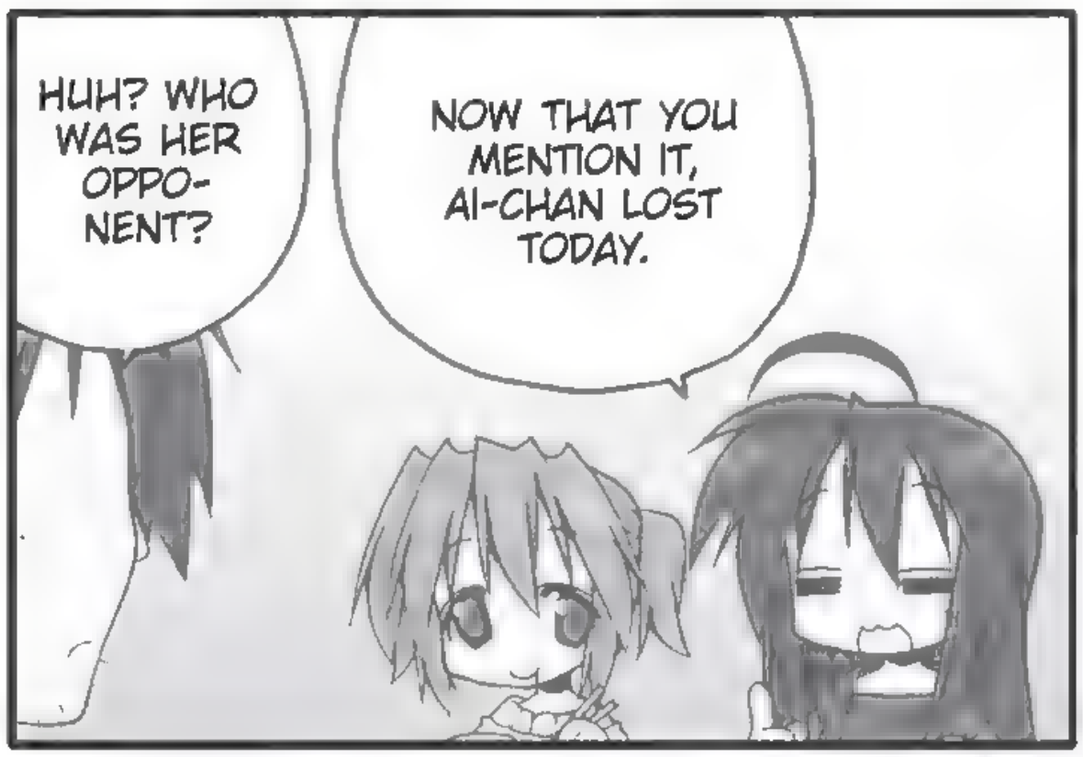
Now... Are you ready...
...for one more run?!

- Yui Narumi

Sure! Of course I'm going to observe all the rules of the road!
In reality, there's no place around to get any good
speed going anyway.

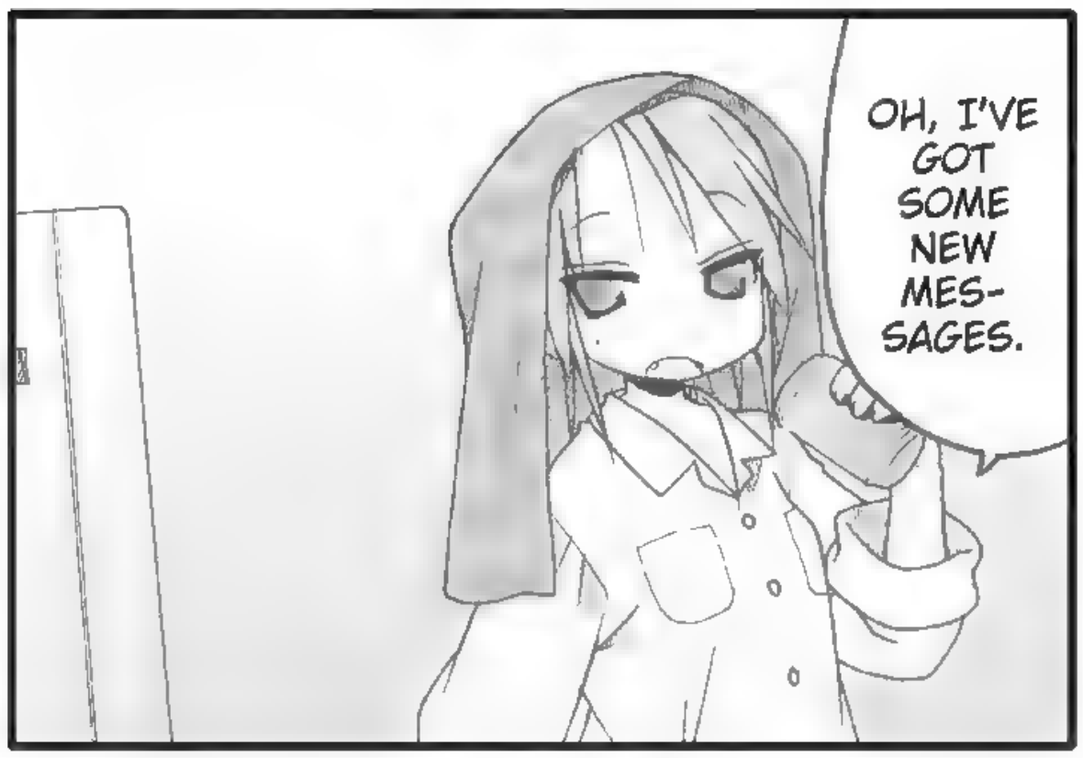
Lucky☆Star

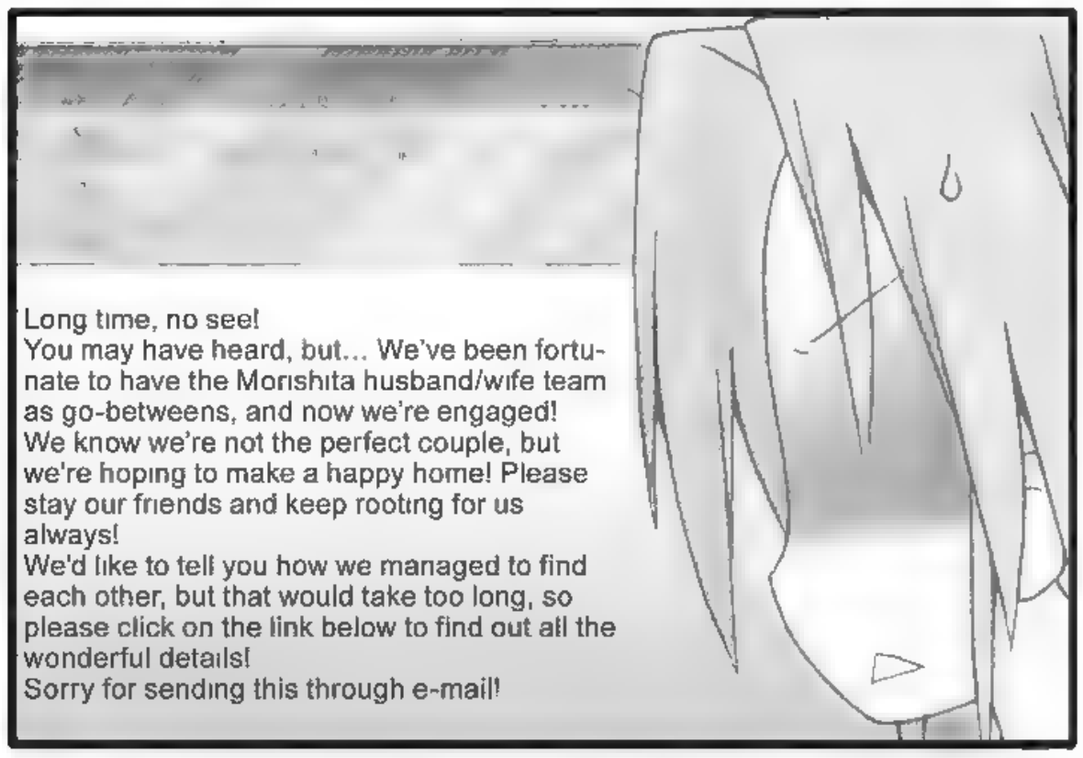
episode 164
judge's decision

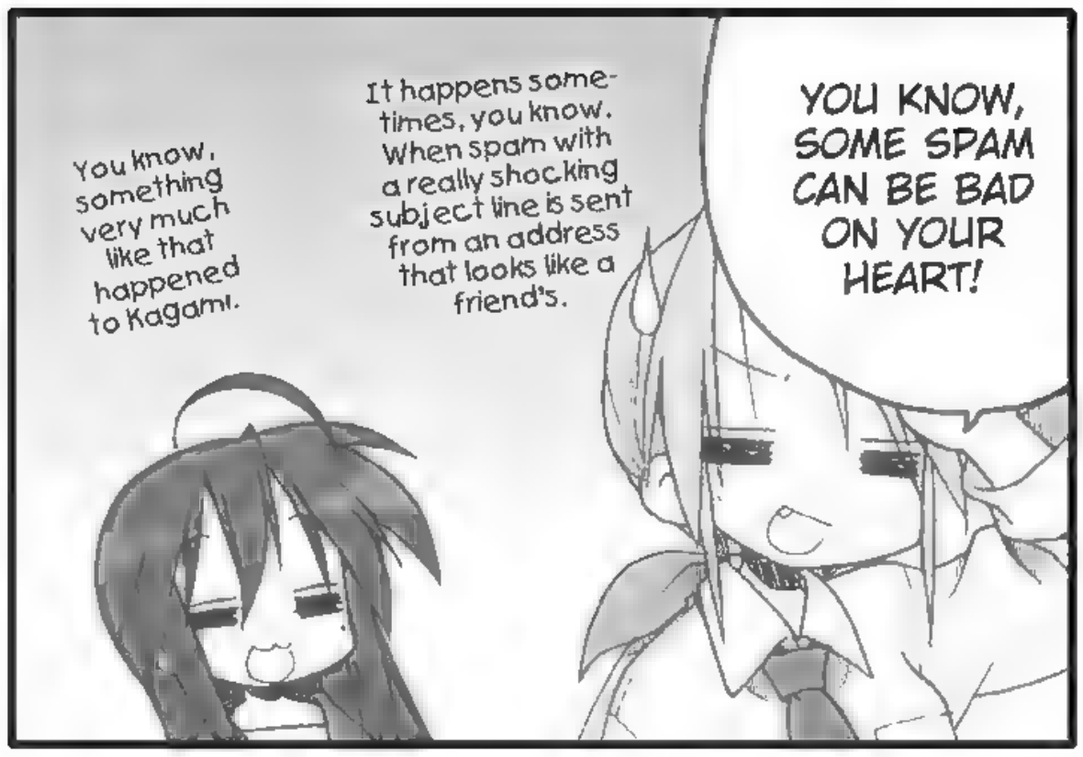


● Comptiq, June 2008 issue

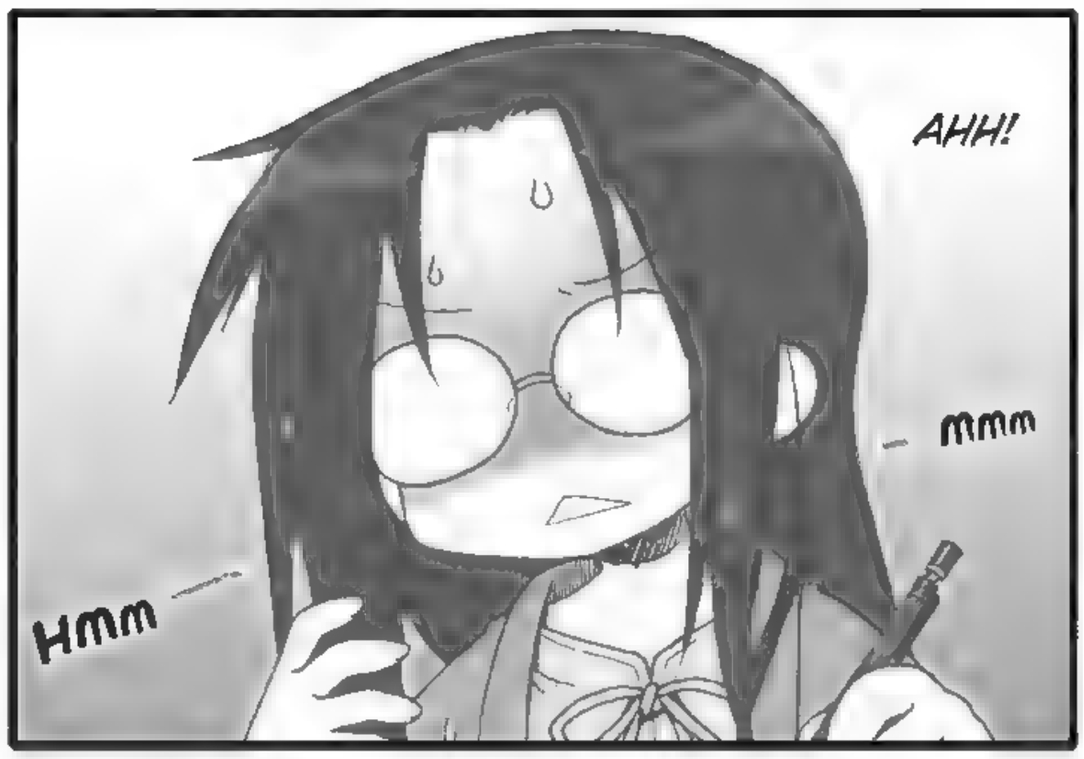
this method and that




Long time, no see!
You may have heard, but... We've been fortunate to have the Morishita husband/wife team as go-betweens, and now we're engaged!
We know we're not the perfect couple, but we're hoping to make a happy home! Please stay our friends and keep rooting for us always!
We'd like to tell you how we managed to find each other, but that would take too long, so please click on the link below to find out all the wonderful details!
Sorry for sending this through e-mail!


You know, something very much like that happened to Kagami.
It happens sometimes, you know. When spam with a really shocking subject line is sent from an address that looks like a friend's.
YOU KNOW, SOME SPAM CAN BE BAD ON YOUR HEART!

the very last line



BUT IF I WERE TO USE THOSE, I GET THE FEELING THAT SOMETHING INSIDE OF ME WOULD CRUMBLE...
GLANCE
GLANCE
IF YOU'RE REALLY THAT BLOCKED, DIDN'T YOU GET SOME IDEAS FROM SOMEBODY ABOUT MIKAN'S COLOR RUBBING OFF? YOU CAN USE THAT!
Gm
Gm
Gm
Gm
Gm
Gm

present and future

...IT REALLY HITS YOU THAT OUR HIGH-SCHOOL LIFE WILL BE OVER IN A VERY SHORT TIME.

BUT LOOKING AT THIS...

HM. JUST ABOUT EVERYBODY SAYS THAT, KUSAKABE.

IT SEEMED SO LONG AT THE TIME, BUT LOOKING BACK, IT SEEMS SO SHORT!

AND THE FRIENDSHIPS THAT GREW DURING THAT TIME ARE A TREASURE YOU'LL NEVER WANT TO LOSE IN YOUR LIFETIME.

THE TIME OF ONE'S SCHOOL LIFE FLOWS ALONG, BUT NO MATTER HOW SHORT AND INSTANT IS, IT CAN HAVE A DEEP AND LASTING IMPACT.

HM. I SUPPOSE THAT'S TRUE.

BOY, WHEN YOU SAY SOMETHING, SAKURABA-SENSEI, IT SURE FEELS ***HEAVY!***

They're really enthusiastic, huh?

depending on how motivated one is

THAT SHOULD ABOUT DO IT.

OH, GOOD WORK.

SENSEI, WE FINALLY FINISHED THE CLASS ALBUM!

...WHEN YOU LINE THEM UP LIKE THIS...

WELL, I HAVE, BUT...

IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE COLLECTED QUITE A FEW ALBUMS.

It's best since they're going to represent memories that last a lifetime.

Yeah.

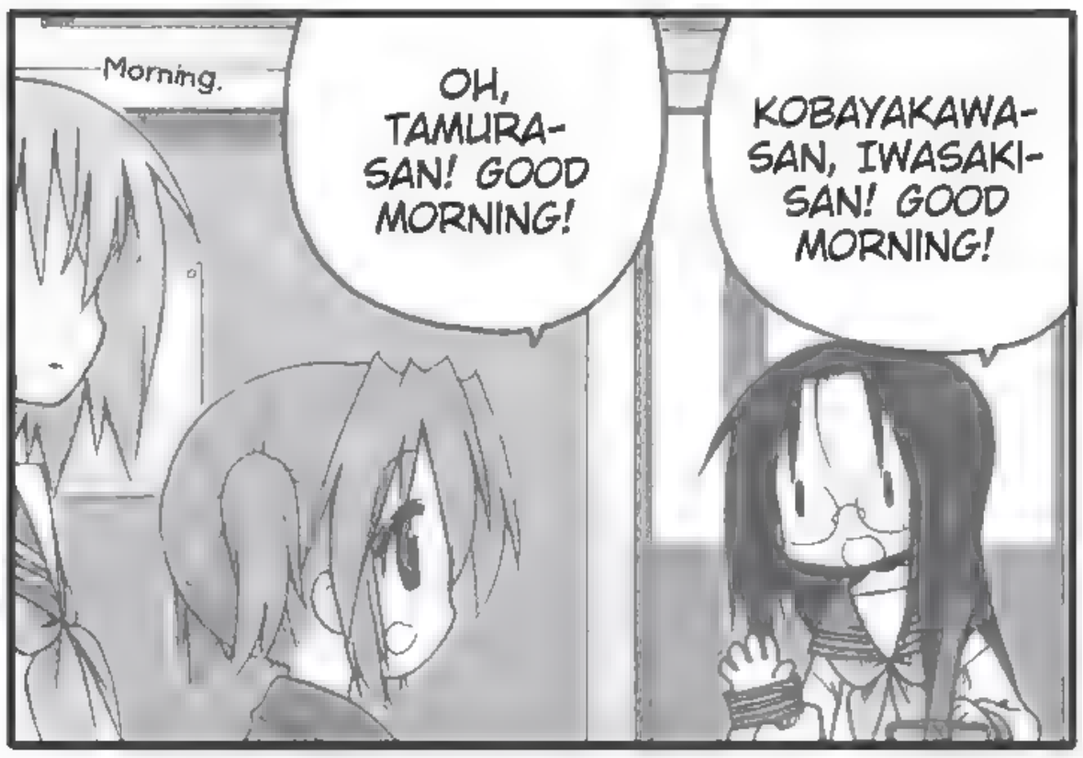
DEPENDING ON THE TASTES OF THE CLASS REPS MAKING EACH CLASS-PAGE, THERE'S A BIG DIFFERENCE IN IMPACT.

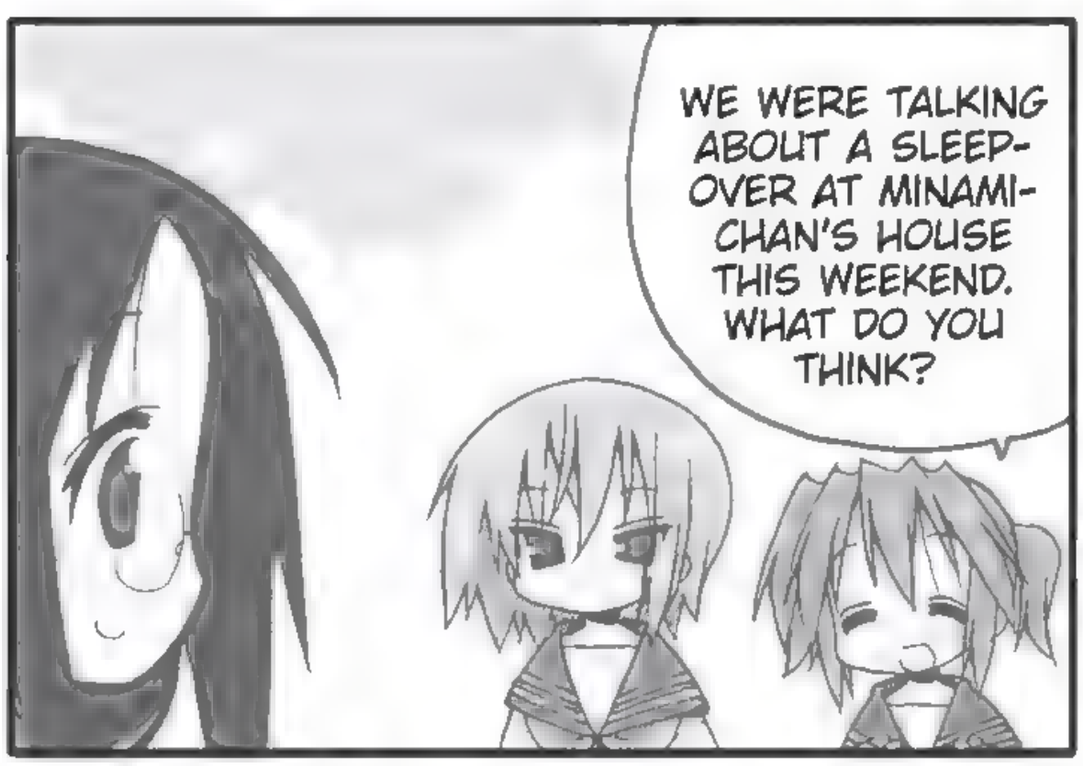
I'm glad you were doing it, Minegishi!

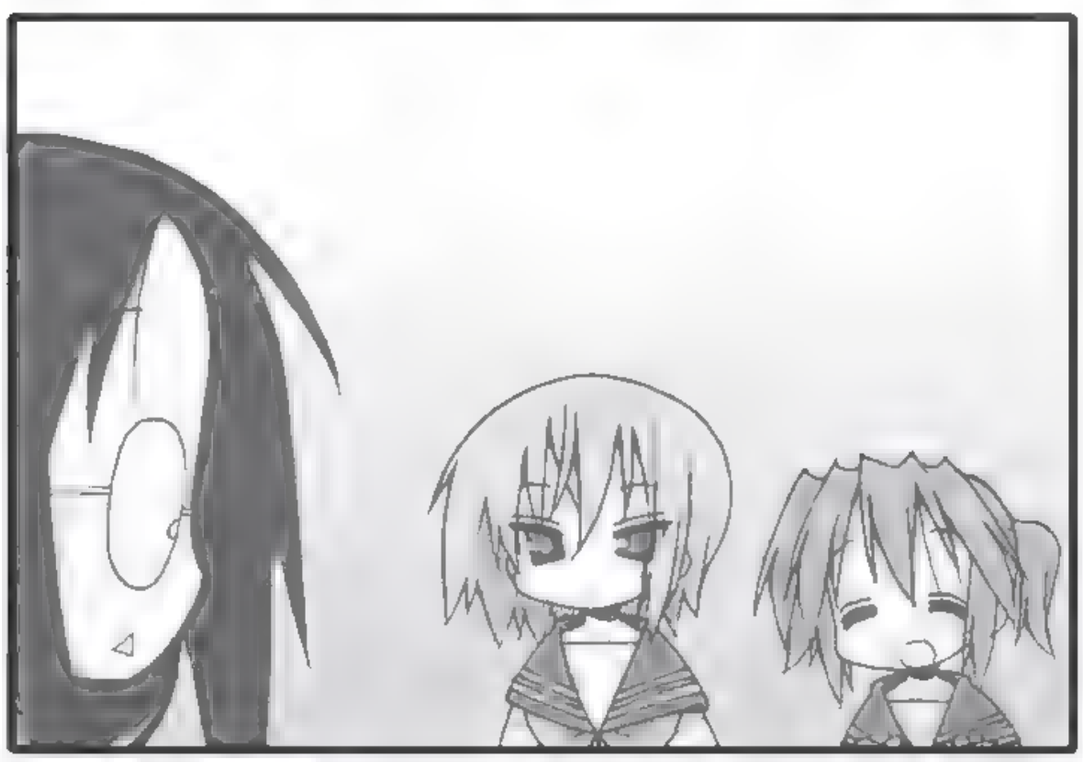
Johnny!! Thank you!!

• Nanako Kuroi

But this year was sort of salt-and-pepper, and kind of weird.
Too bad!
It wasn't because I went and cheered for you, right? Right?







That's right. Nothing more than a pajama party
CALM DOWN, HIYORI! DON'T OVERREACT TO THE WORD "SLEEPOVER," HIYORI!!
Y-YEAH, I'M UP FOR IT. I'LL GO.
?
?

Lucky☆Star

episode 165
visitor's diary

● Comptiq, June 2008 issue

everything about her

TAMURA-SAN, YOU HAVE A CAMERA TOO?

WHEN IT'S SOMETHING WE LIKE, WE WANT TO TAKE PICTURE AFTER PICTURE, HUH?

AH!!

YEAH! AND WHEN I TAKE SOME I REALLY LIKE, I UPLOAD THEM TO MY BLOG AND--

EHH? WHY NOT?

N-N-NOOO! YOU CAN'T! NO WAY!

..... I'D LOVE TO SEE YOUR BLOG!

BUT TAMURA-SAN, YOU'RE UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE...

B-BECAUSE "THIS SITE IS FOR ADULTS ONLY. ANYONE UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE MAY NOT ENTER THIS SITE." THAT'S WHY!!

Kill me now!

continuous photo shots

AH! IWASAKI-SAN! YOU OWN A DIGITAL CAMERA!

OH, YES. I THOUGHT I'D TRY MY HAND AT VARIOUS TYPES OF PICTURES.

Miyuki-san took some for me.

DLUUUUMM

AH! IT'S ONE OF CHERRY-CHAN! HOW CUTE!

WOW! LOOK AT ALL THE CUTE PICTURES!

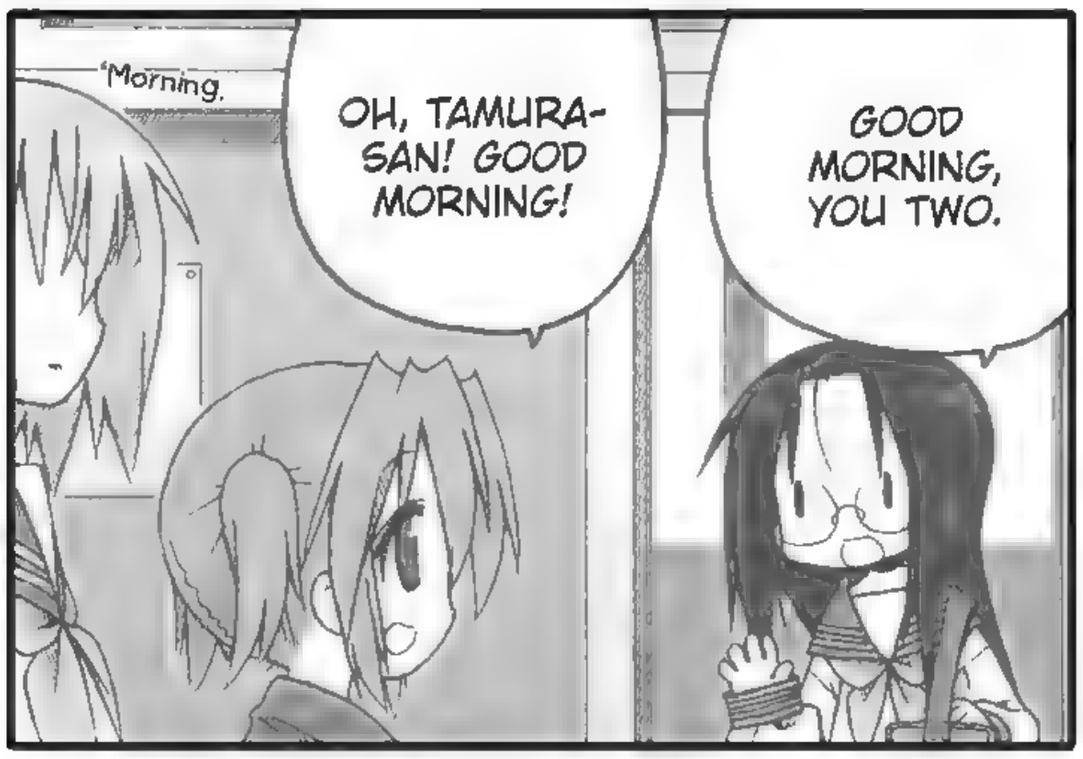
AND THIS ONE OF CHERRY-CHAN IS CUTE TOO!

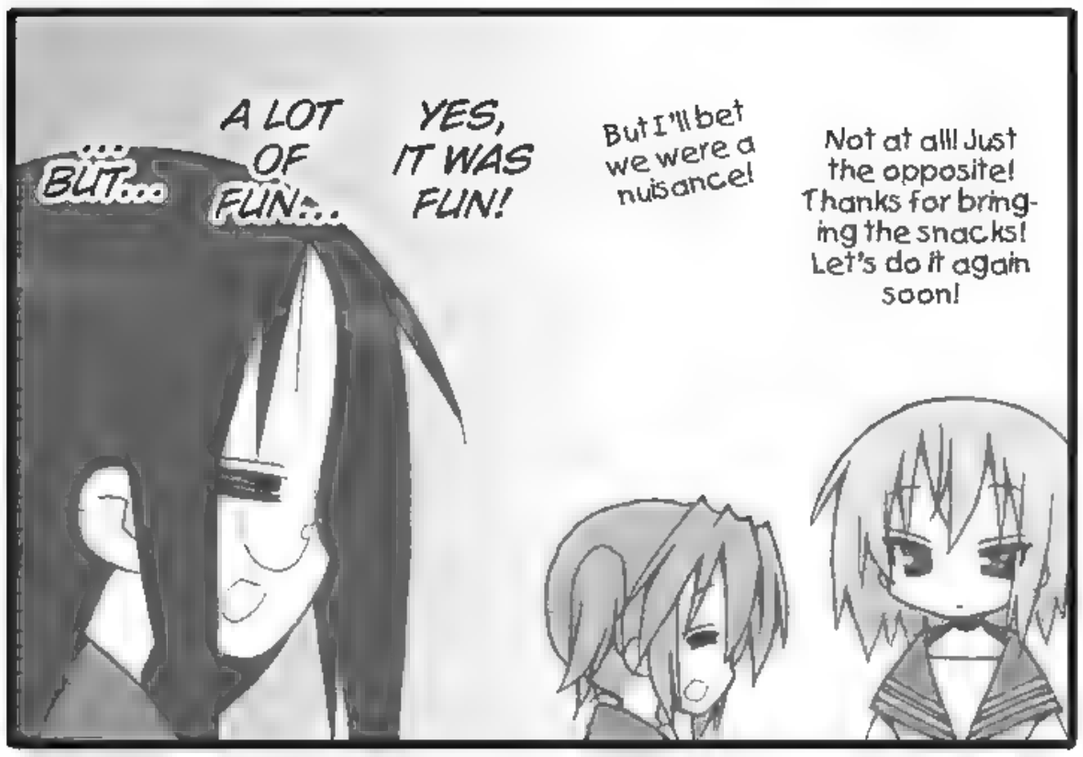
PHOTOGRAPHIC SUBJECTS TEND TO LEAN TOWARDS WHAT YOU LIKE THE MOST.

I think there was one of scenery in there some where..

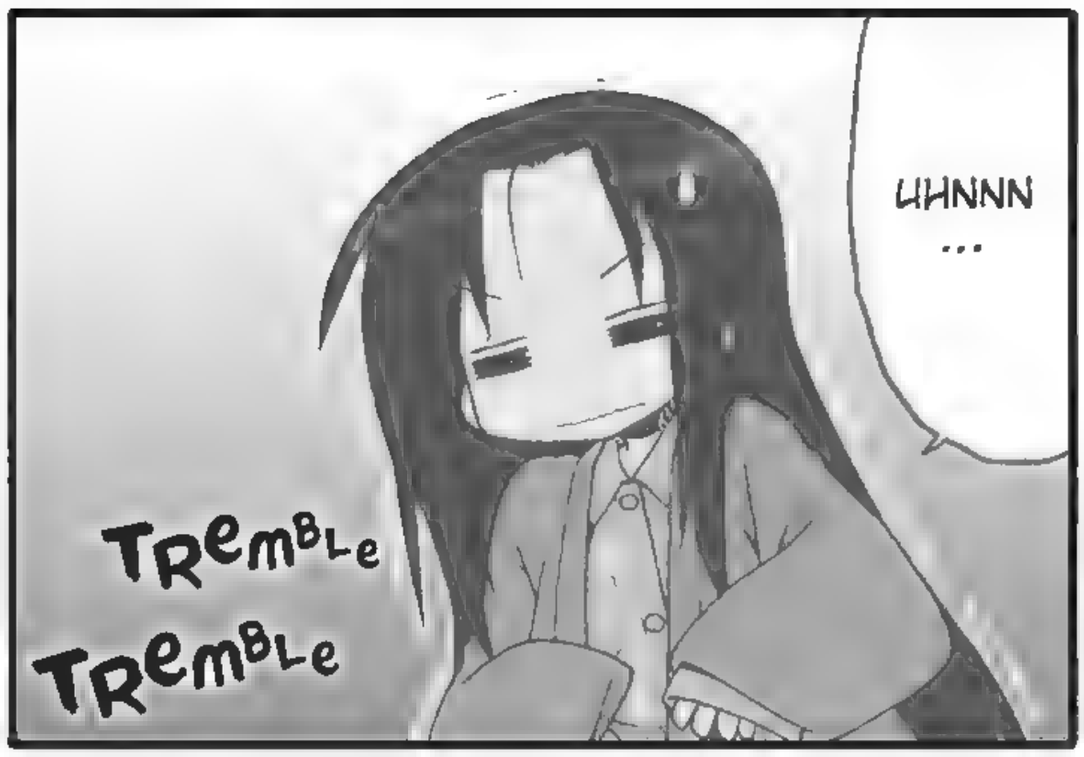
Is Cherry-chan the only thing you've photographed so far?

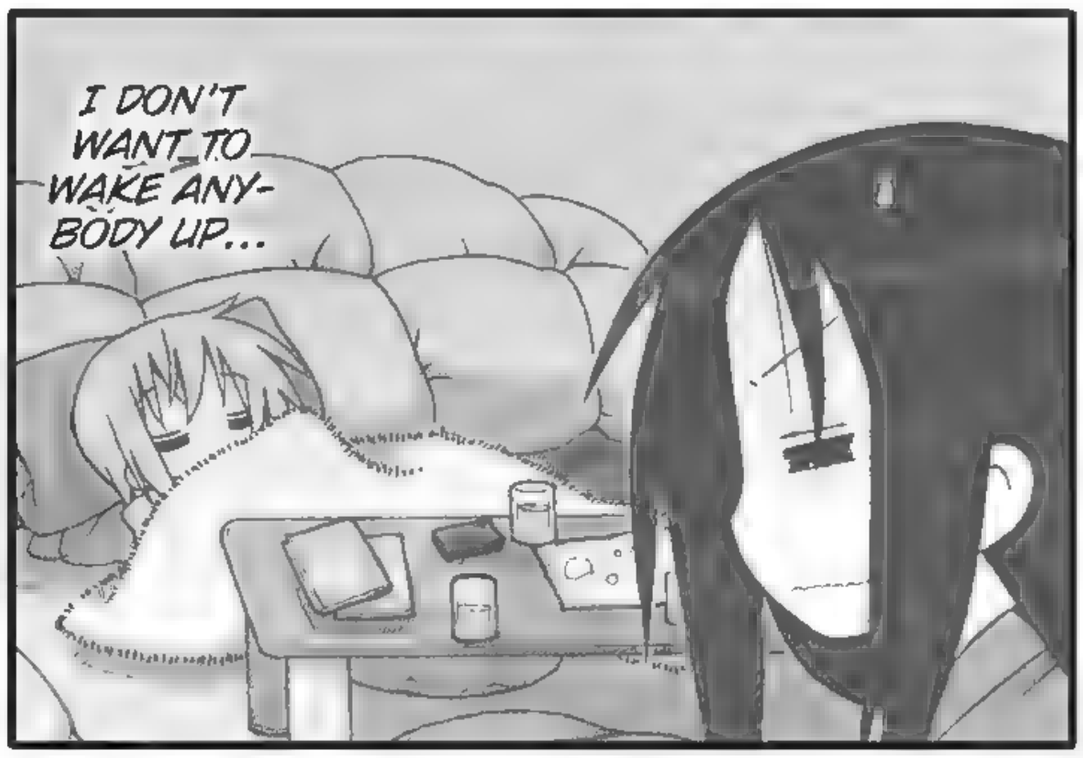
daily

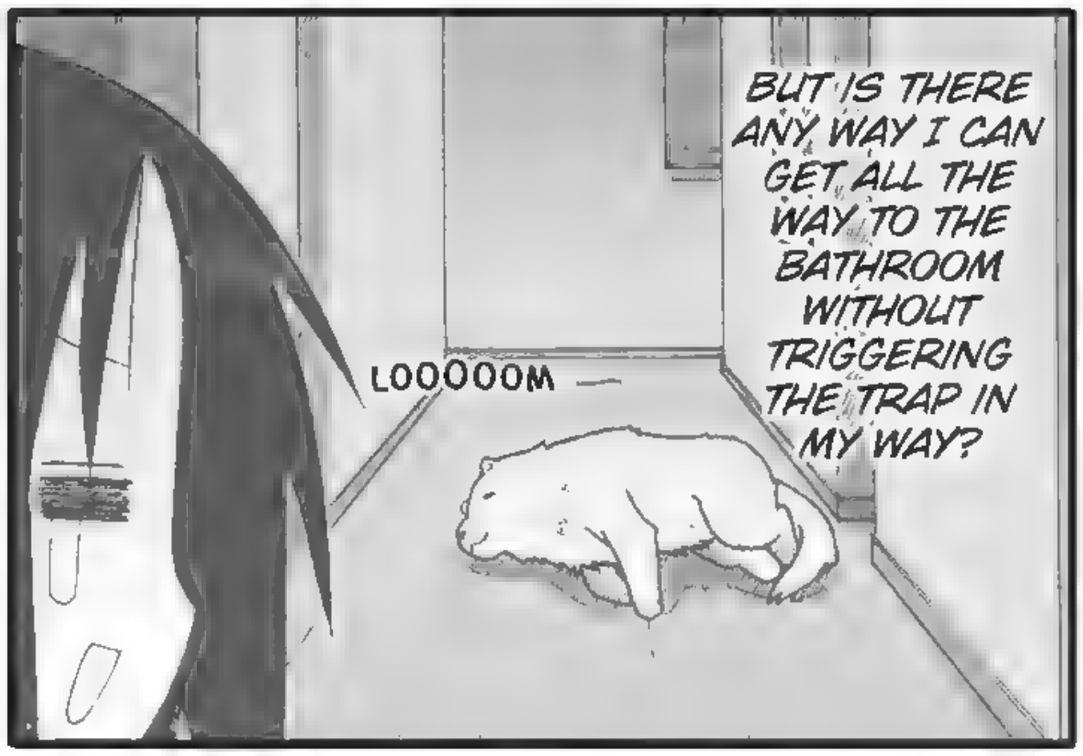



A LOT OF FUN...
BUT...
YES, IT WAS FUN!
But I'll bet we were a nuisance!
Not at all! Just the opposite! Thanks for bringing the snacks! Let's do it again soon!

lovely bomb



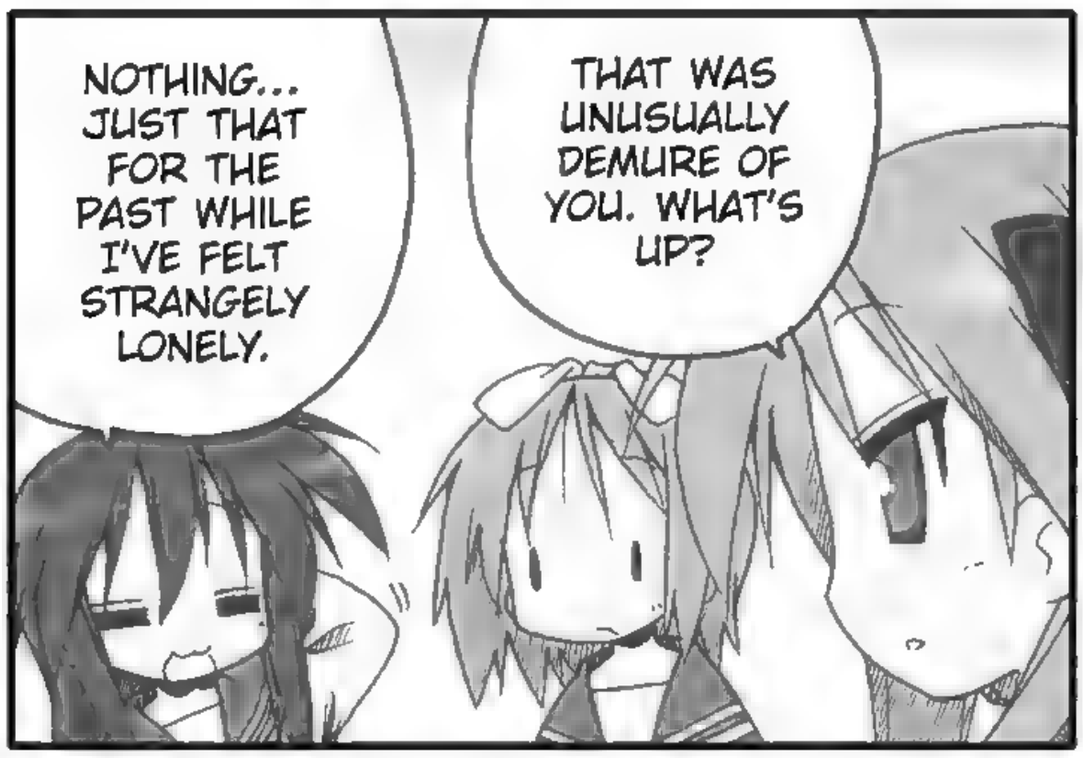


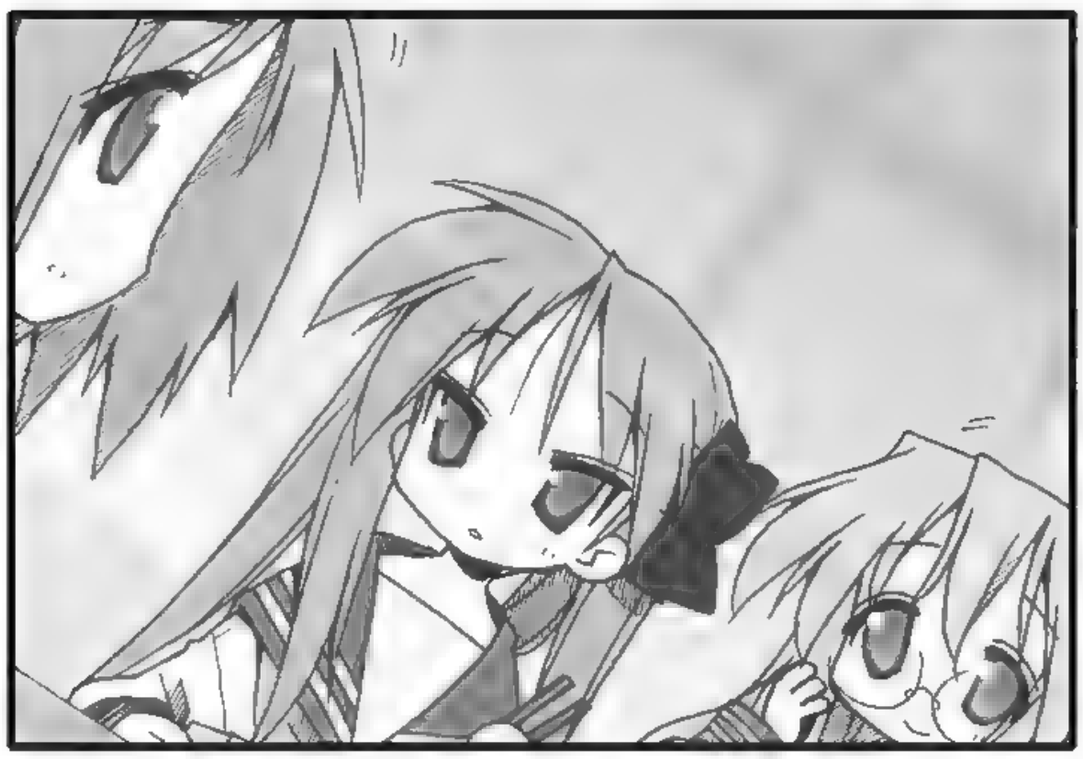


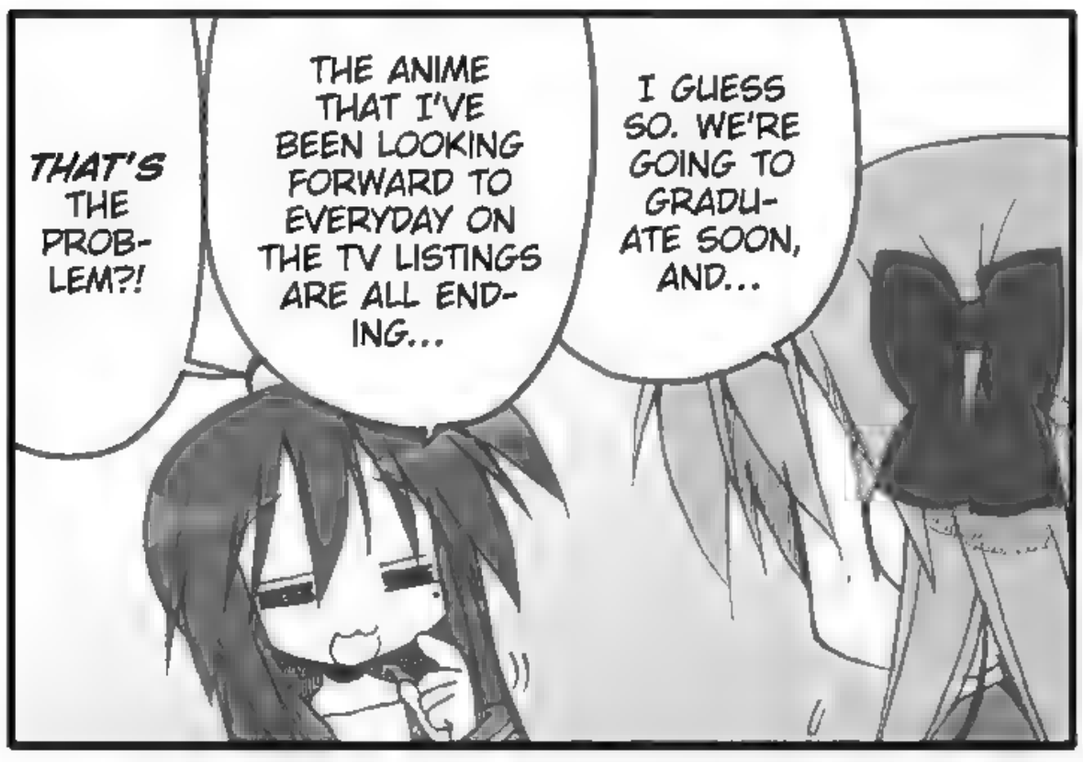
Hmm...I can't see like this.

• Hikaru Sakuraba

Well, I guess there's no help for it. Umph!
...Let's see... Where did I put my glasses?






THAT'S THE PROB-LEM?!
THE ANIME THAT I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO EVERYDAY ON THE TV LISTINGS ARE ALL END-ING...
I GUESS SO. WE'RE GOING TO GRADU-ATE SOON, AND...

Lucky☆Star

episode 166
that which fades away

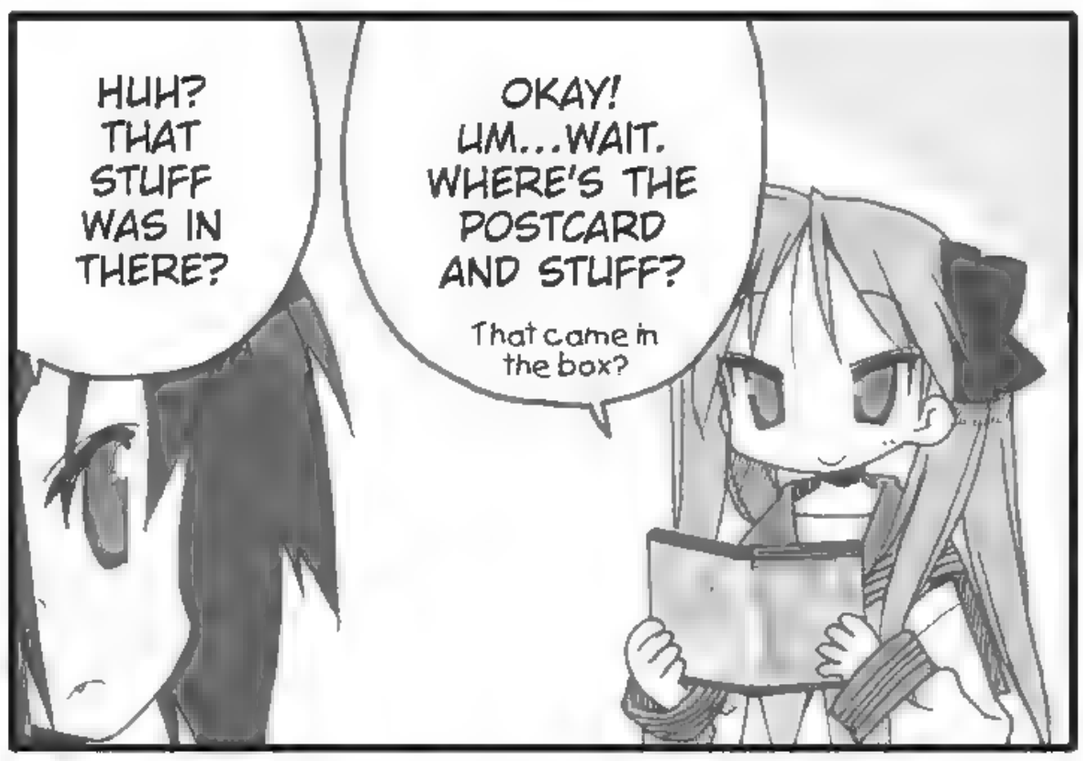
● Comptiq, July 2008 issue

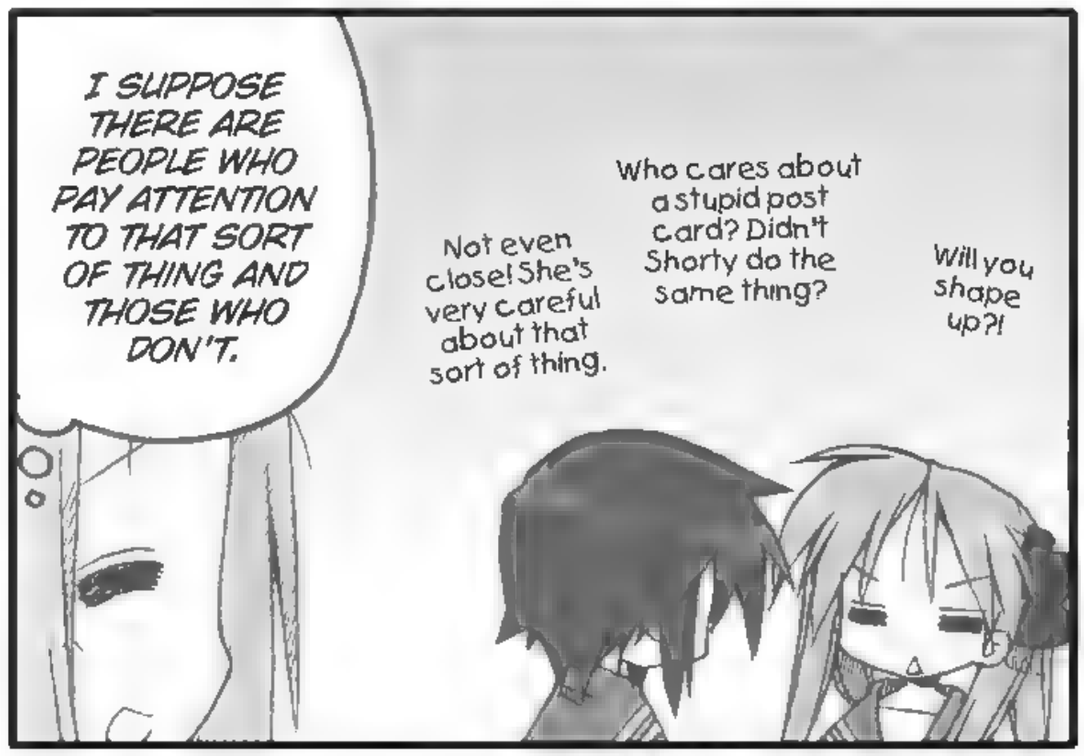
go, go, japan!

WITH ALL THE TROUBLE THEY MAKE, I WISH THE OWNERS WHO ABANDONED THEM WOULD ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY!
THAT'S RIGHT! AND ALL THAT STUFF ABOUT FOREIGN CREATURES THAT USED TO BE PETS GETTING INTO THE ECO SYSTEM.
BUT WHEN THEY TALK ABOUT THINGS LIKE THAT, I GET TO THINKING...
That's true.

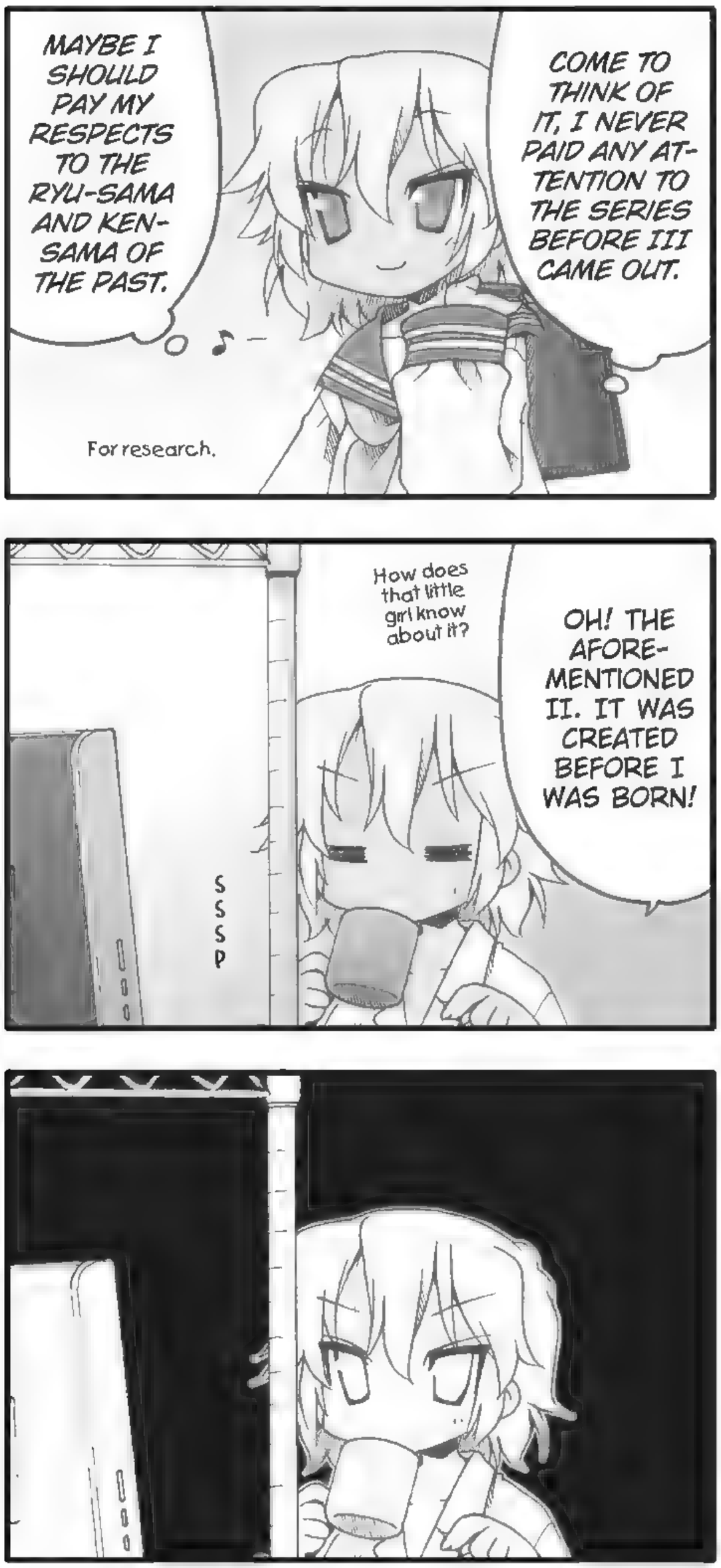
IT'S TRUE WHEN YOU HEAR THE WORD "FOREIGN," YOU GET THAT IMAGE, HUH?
JAPANESE GENES SEEM SOMEHOW WEAKER TO FOREIGN GENES, AND NOT JUST HUMANS.
It's also true for the plants and stuff too.
Aren't there any examples of the opposite?

divergence




I SUPPOSE THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO PAY ATTENTION TO THAT SORT OF THING AND THOSE WHO DON'T.
Not even close! She's very careful about that sort of thing.
Who cares about a stupid post card? Didn't Shorty do the same thing?
Will you shape up?!

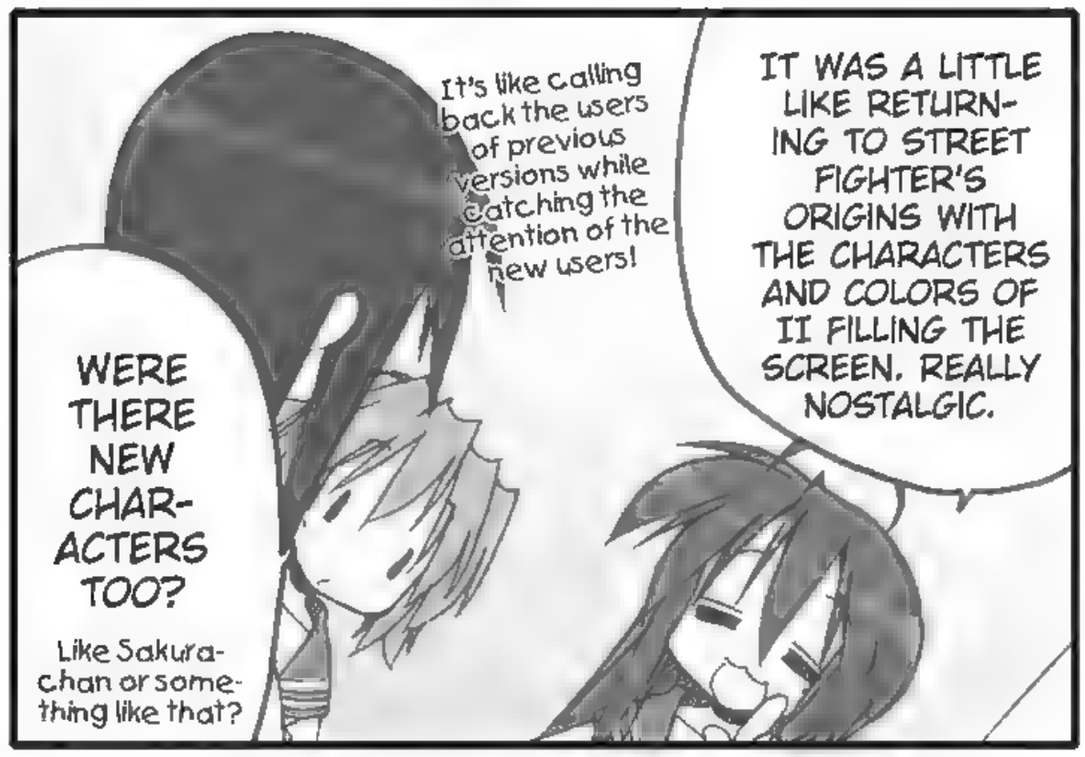
the dreams stays a dream


MAYBE I SHOULD PAY MY RESPECTS TO THE RYU-SAMA AND KEN-SAMA OF THE PAST.
For research.
COME TO THINK OF IT, I NEVER PAID ANY ATTENTION TO THE SERIES BEFORE III CAME OUT.
How does that little girl know about it?
S S S P
OH! THE AFORE-MENTIONED II. IT WAS CREATED BEFORE I WAS BORN!

the aloof warrior

IS THAT SO?
My brother would know more about that than I would.
HIYOHIYO, IT SEEMS THERE'S A BOOM IN GAME RE-RELEASES RECENTLY.
OH!
OH HO?
I JUST CAME BACK FROM TRYING A LITTLE OF STREET FIGHTER IV LOCATION TEST.

IT'S A PART OF THE HISTORY OF GAMING. THERE'S REALLY NO HELP FOR IT.
Rockman and BOF have all changed over the years.
Who are those over-bearing old men?!
HIYORIN! RYU AND KEN ARE DEAD TO ME NOW!


It's like calling back the users of previous versions while catching the attention of the new users!
WERE THERE NEW CHAR-ACTERS TOO?
Like Sakura-chan or some-thing like that?
IT WAS A LITTLE LIKE RETURN-ING TO STREET FIGHTER'S ORIGINS WITH THE CHARACTERS AND COLORS OF II FILLING THE SCREEN. REALLY NOSTALGIC.

URK... B-BUT WHAT I MEAN IS, MY MAIN FOCUS ON THE GAMES IS HOW MOE THE CHARACTERS ARE.
And what you mean is it's got no moe, right?
But I love how Cap-com never sucks up!
HIYORI-KUN! YOU KNOW GAMES AREN'T ALL ABOUT THE MOE!
Although I'm a big fan of moe too.

Today looks like it
will be a very good day.

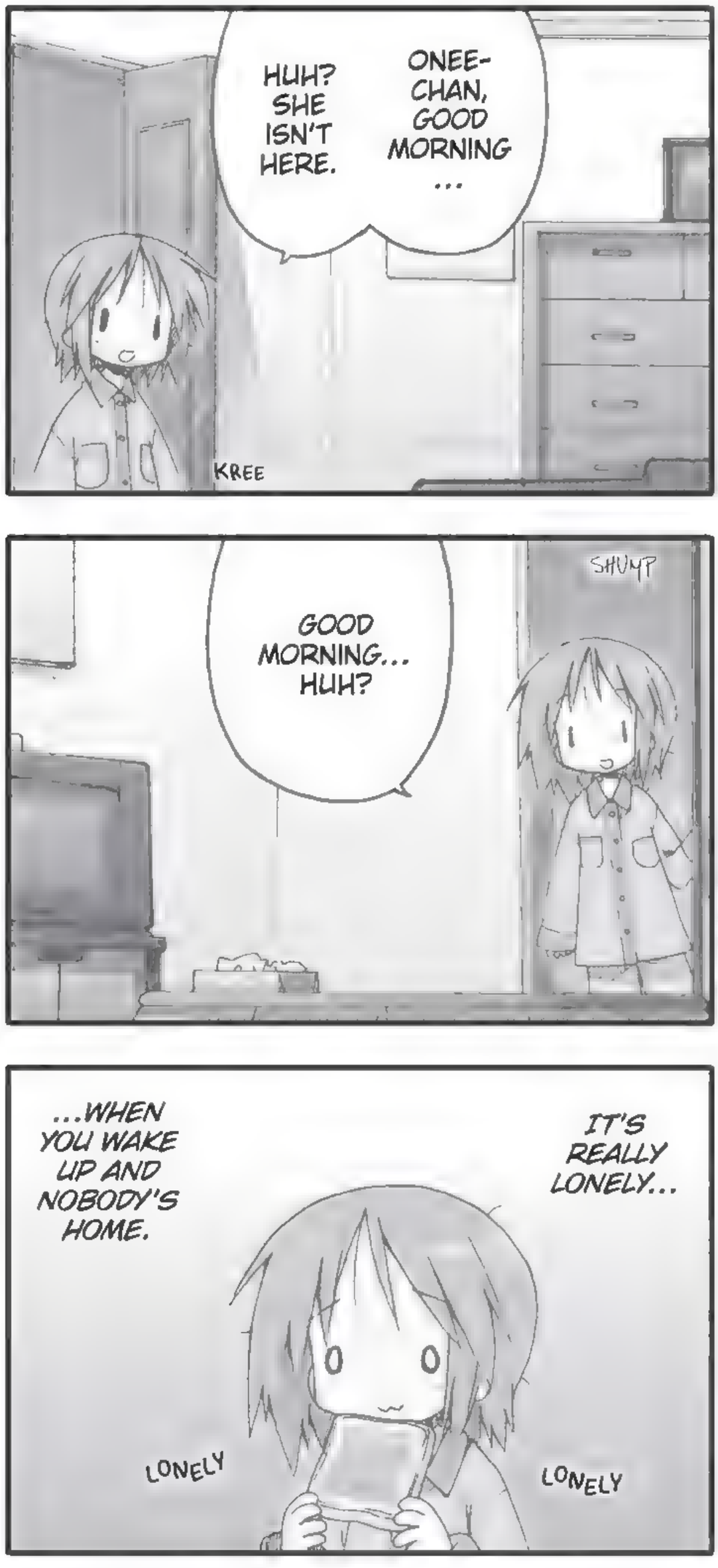
- Fuyuki Amahara

I might even find some of the antiques I've been searching for.
..... Ah, but there's a chance of paranormal events cropping up
with antiques. (It makes me a little excited.)

Lucky☆Star

episode 167
thanks for putting me up

waking up late in the morning

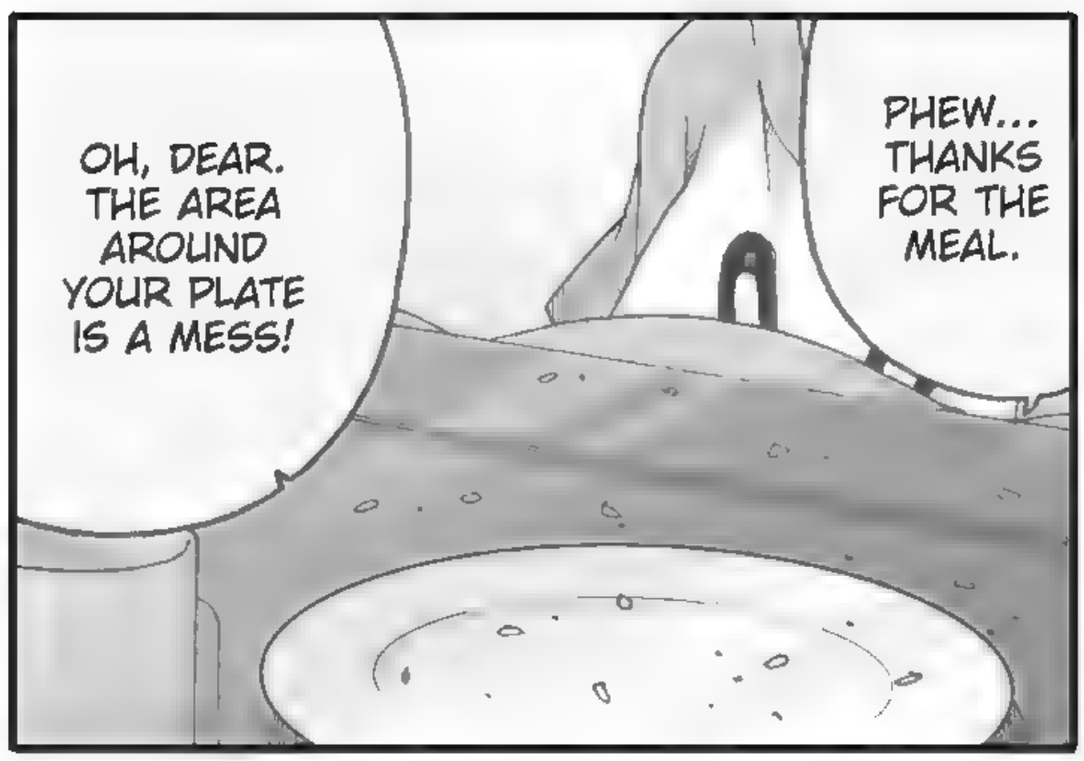


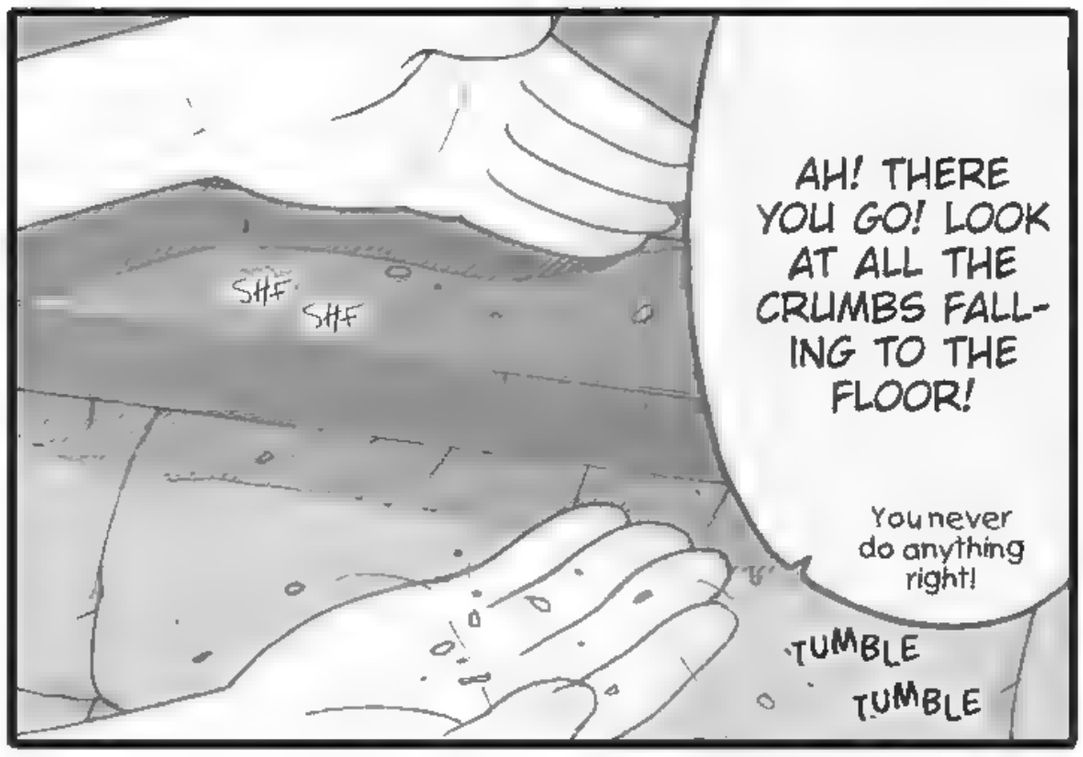
● Comptiq, July 2008 issue

turning back the clock

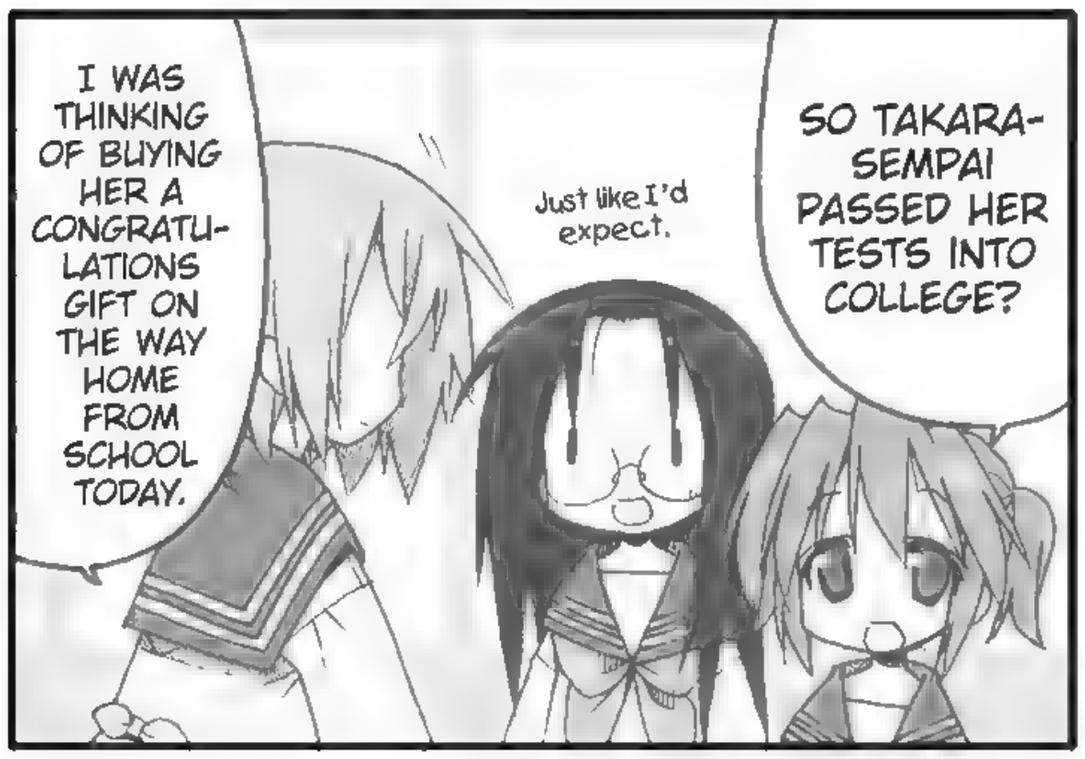
SHF SHF
AH! NOW LOOK! YOU GOT IT ALL OVER THE TABLE AGAIN!
Let's not do this with more force than necessary making more work for our selves, shall we?
TUMBLE TUMBLE

making it worse





loads of happiness


I WAS THINKING OF BUYING HER A CONGRATULATIONS GIFT ON THE WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL TODAY.
Just like I'd expect.
SO TAKARA-SEMPAI PASSED HER TESTS INTO COLLEGE?

UM... THIS IS A CAKE TO CELE-BRATE...
DINNG DONNG
COMING! COOOOOM-ING! OH, IT'S MINAMI-CHAN! WELCOME!
I wanted to come with con-gratulations.

coordinator

AH HA HA! OF COURSE I READ THEM.
NOTHING. I WAS JUST THINKING THAT YOU READ THAT KIND OF MAGAZINE TOO, HUH?
I thought you didn't pay attention to things like fashion.

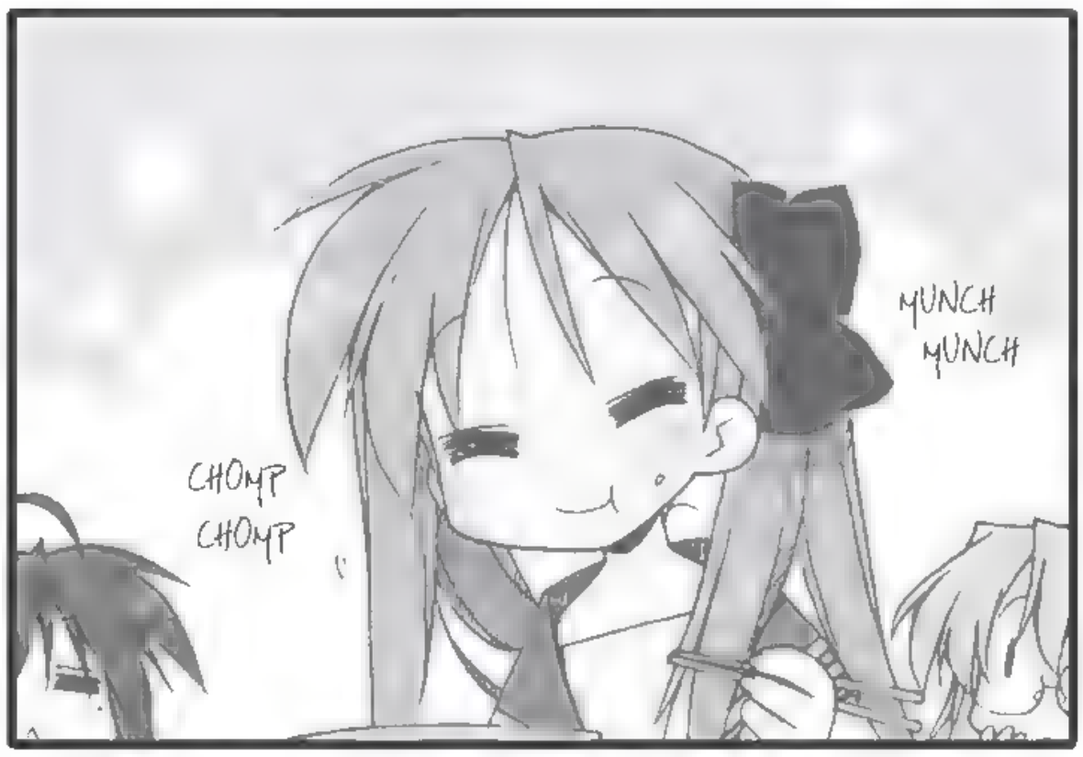
Hmm... How can I make this work?
(Sou-kun, fight!!)

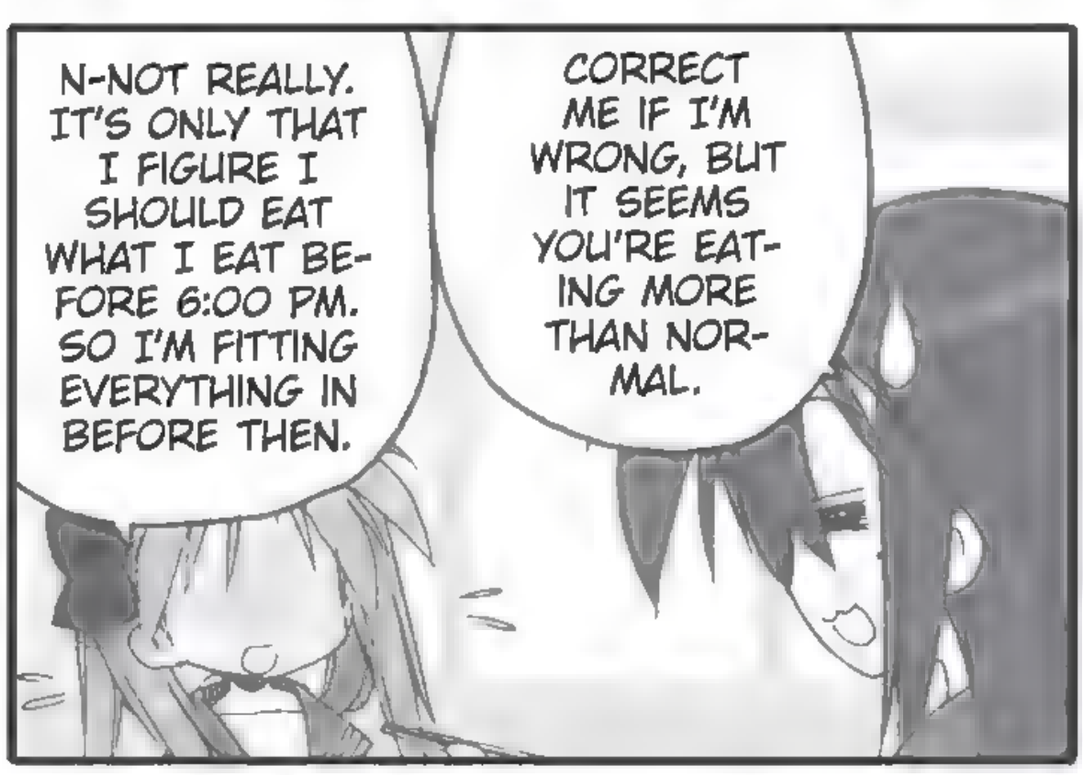
• SoujirouIzumi • KanataIzumi

Maybe I've been having too many all-nighters...
(Make sure you take care of yourself and don't get sick!)
All right. I'll just give myself a pick-me-up with a short game!
(Doesn't "sleep" even enter your mind as an option?! ( ))

Lucky☆Star

episode 168
hear that all the time




N-NOT REALLY. IT'S ONLY THAT I FIGURE I SHOULD EAT WHAT I EAT BEFORE 6:00 PM. SO I'M FITTING EVERYTHING IN BEFORE THEN.
CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG, BUT IT SEEMS YOU'RE EATING MORE THAN NORMAL.

SHUT UP! JUST DON'T SAY ANYTHING!
I'm already self-conscious as it is!!
YESTERDAY, ONEE-CHAN WAS HURRYING TO FINISH A DISH OF CUP RAMEN JUST SECONDS BEFORE 6:00 PM.
BUT IF YOU ADD THAT TO THREE MEALS A DAY, YOU'LL GET EVEN FATTER.
Besides, just how much did you eat all day up until now?

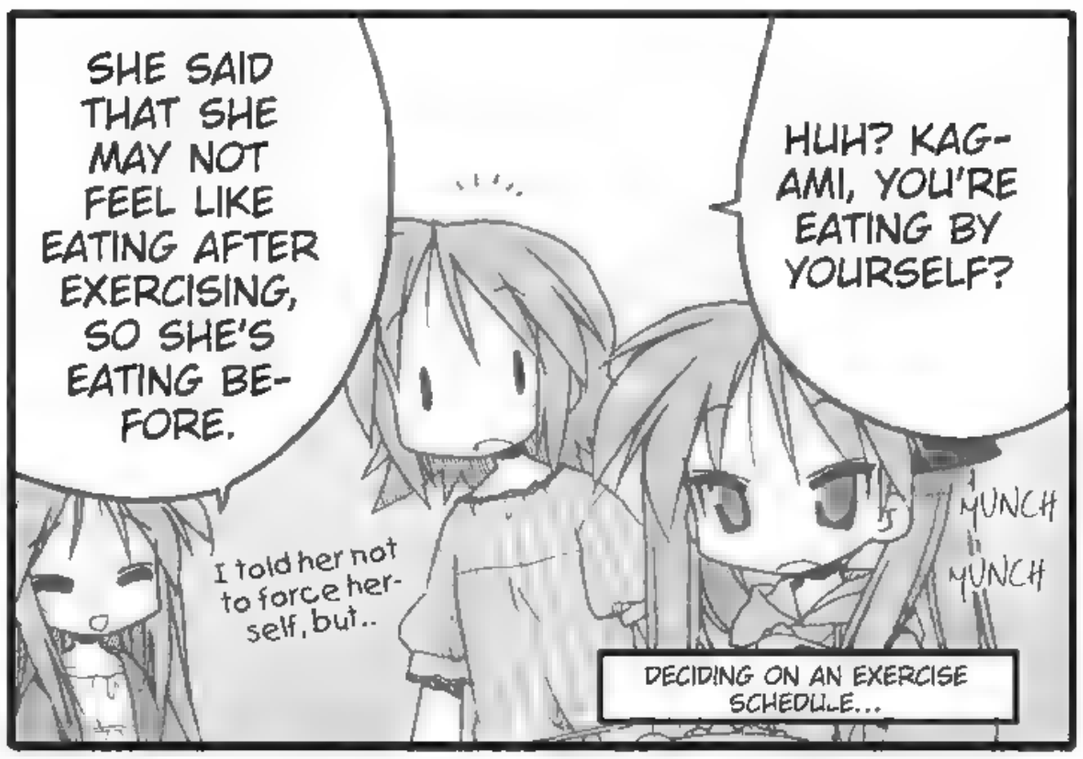
● Comptiq, August 2008 issue

Uh.. Ah..
WELL... HOW ABOUT WE SET ASIDE YOUR PORTION AND YOU CAN EAT IT TOMORROW?
SURE THE LABEL SAYS IT'S GOOD FOR A FEW MORE DAYS.
But maybe it's better to eat them quickly.

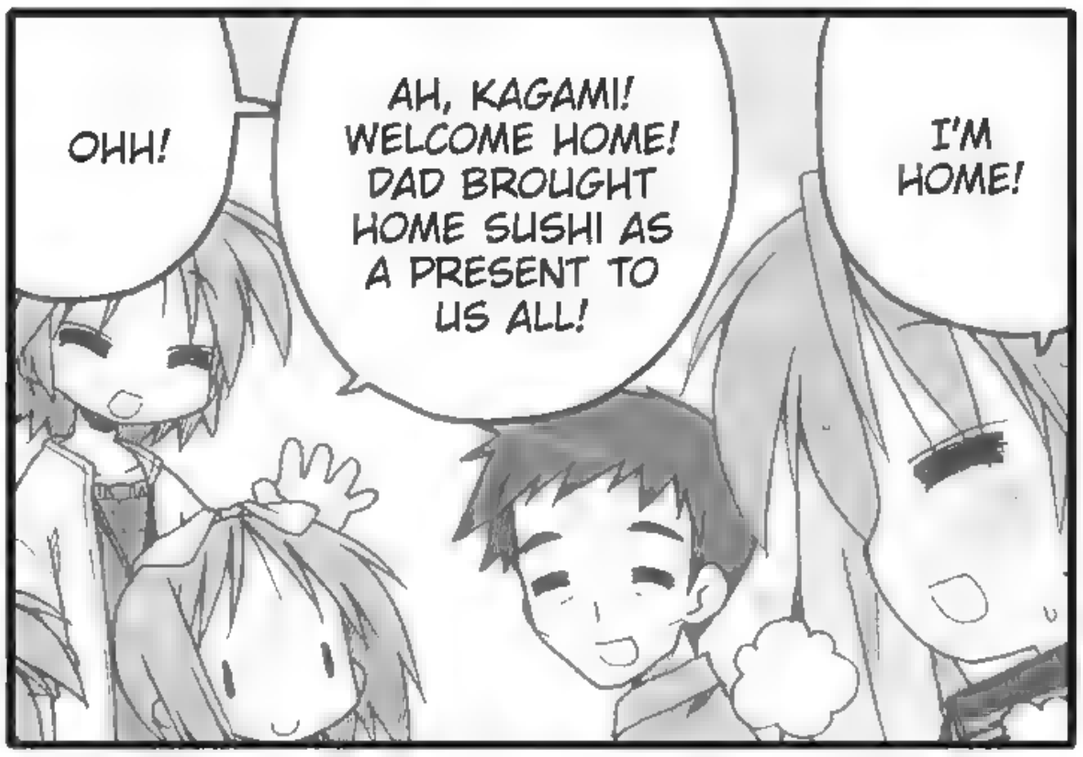
That's good!
Wow!
These things sell out quick everyday!
This stuff is great!
Really! I guess so 'cause they're so delicious!
Didn't I tell you?

I CAN DO IT! JUST FOR A LITTLE WHILE...
..... RIGHT! I HAVE TO HOLD OUT!

WEAK WILLED!
I-I THINK THESE THINGS SHOULD BE EATEN WHEN THEY'RE AT THEIR FRESHEST, RIGHT?
...STARTING TOMORROW!!
It really is delicious!


SHE SAID THAT SHE MAY NOT FEEL LIKE EATING AFTER EXERCISING, SO SHE'S EATING BEFORE.
HUH? KAGAMI, YOU'RE EATING BY YOURSELF?
I told her not to force herself, but..
MUNCH MUNCH
DECIDING ON AN EXERCISE SCHEDULE...

TMP TMP TMP
TMP

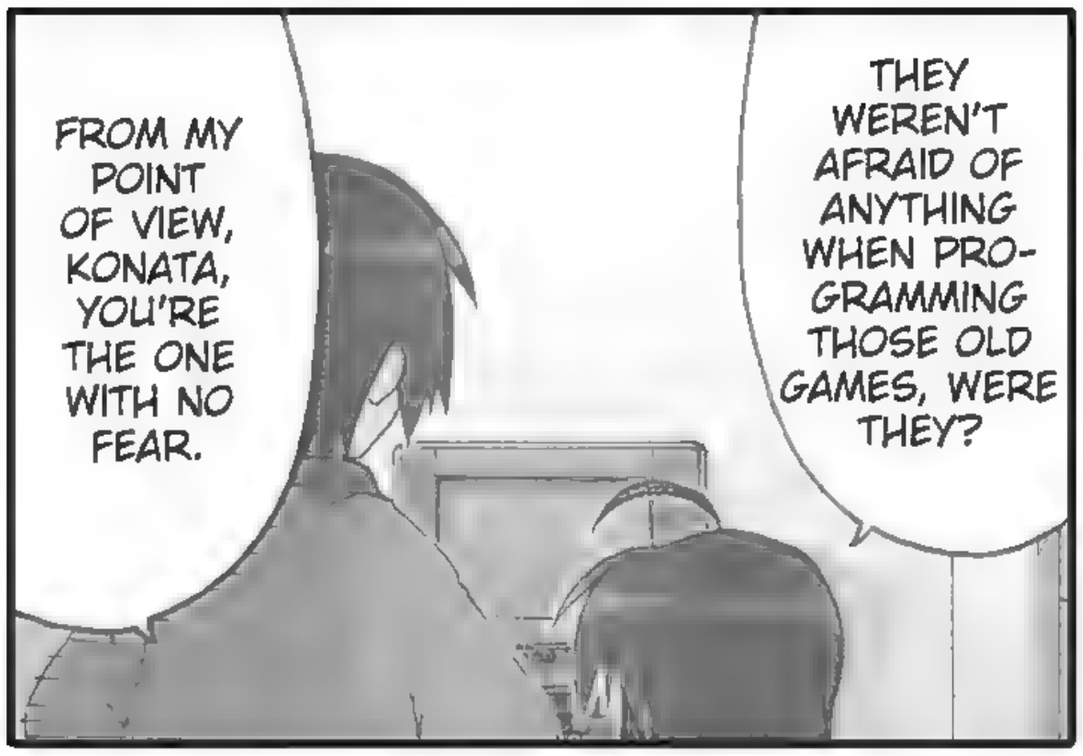

OHH!
AH, KAGAMI! WELCOME HOME! DAD BROUGHT HOME SUSHI AS A PRESENT TO US ALL!
I'M HOME!

URK! NO... YOU KNOW! IT TURNS OUT THAT I DIDN'T LOSE MY APPETITE LIKE I THOUGHT, YOU KNOW?!
Besides, I didn't eat much before my workout!!!
Gak
KAGAMI, IF YOU EAT RIGHT AFTER EXERCISING, WON'T YOU GAIN EVEN MORE WEIGHT?

as much as you want

IT'S A LONG-RUNNING TITLE THAT'S SEEN TWENTY YEARS SINCE ITS FIRST RELEASE.
In the first generation moving the lever input device was kind of rough.
It's older than I am.

AND USING ELECTRIC EELS FROM THE AMAZON TO POWER ATTACKS STRIKES ME THESE DAYS AS BEING A BIT RACIALLY INSENSITIVE.
USING INDIA YOGA TO STRETCH YOUR ARMS AND LEGS...
BZZT
BZZT
BWOO
OON


FROM MY POINT OF VIEW, KONATA, YOU'RE THE ONE WITH NO FEAR.
THEY WEREN'T AFRAID OF ANYTHING WHEN PROGRAMMING THOSE OLD GAMES, WERE THEY?

the second generation

AFTER PLAYING STREET FIGHTER IV: LOCATION TEST, I FELT LIKE PLAYING THIS AGAIN.
Shoryu ...
Your dad's pretty good at this.
IT'S SUCH A NOSTALGIC FEELING PLAYING STREET FIGHTER II AGAIN.

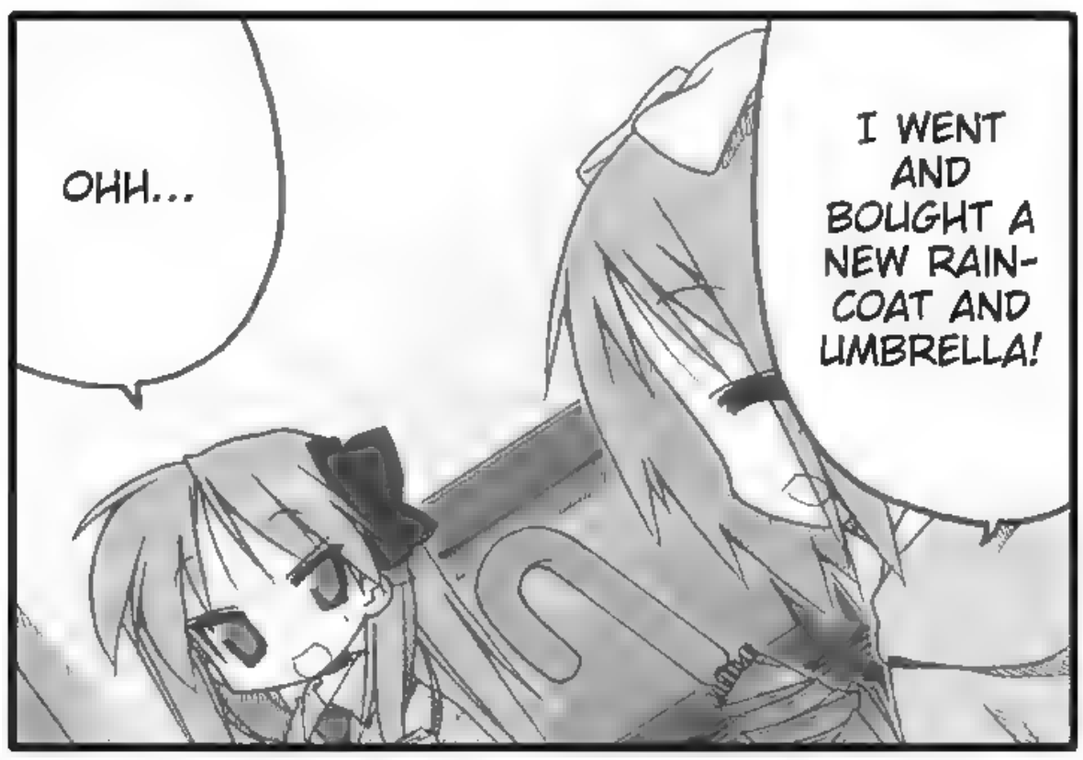
It's true. And grade-school students are using net games like they're nothing nowadays.
They don't go out and meet people!
TODAY, I FELT THE GENERATION GAP IN A DEEP AND VERY PERSONAL WAY!
KLIK
KLIK

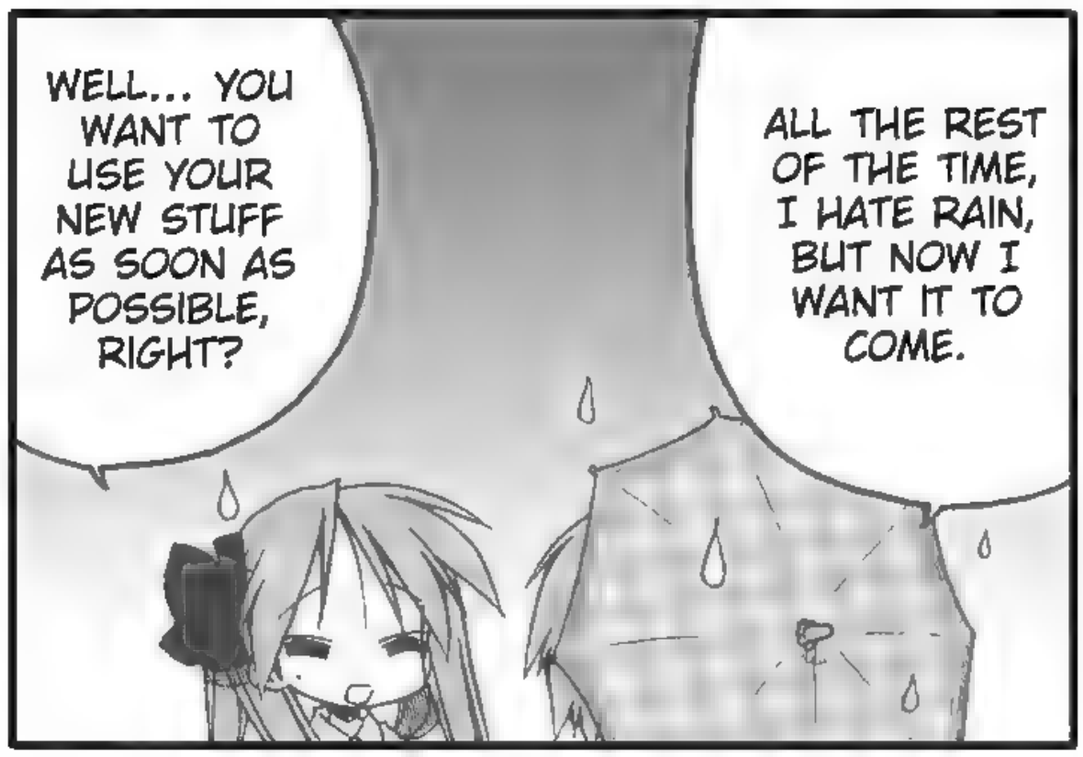
I just wanted to say that it's a pleasure!
Oh, no! The pleasure is all mine... Um...
Why are we talking like this?

• Yukari Takara • Minami's Mother

I wanted to play rich-woman tag.
"Tag"...It's not much of a game, is it?
Do you mind if I turn the page?
Be my guest.
This is how we madams spend our free time. Hee hee!

will it come? will it come?



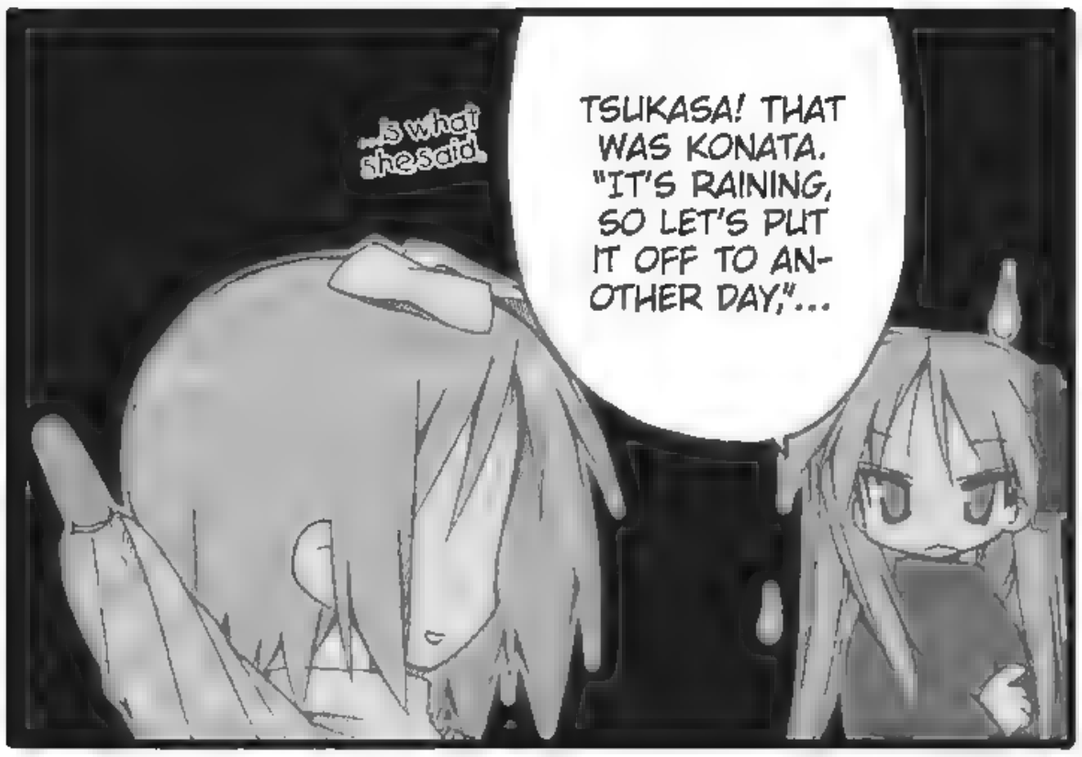


Lucky☆Star

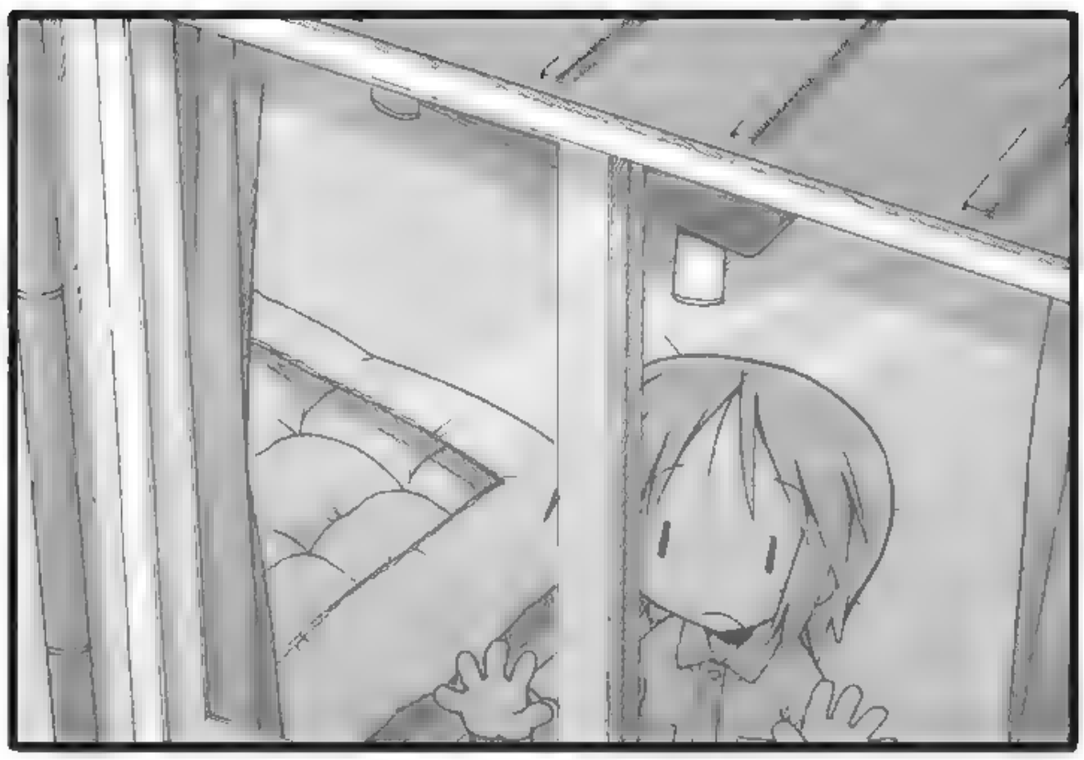
episode 169
plans gone awry

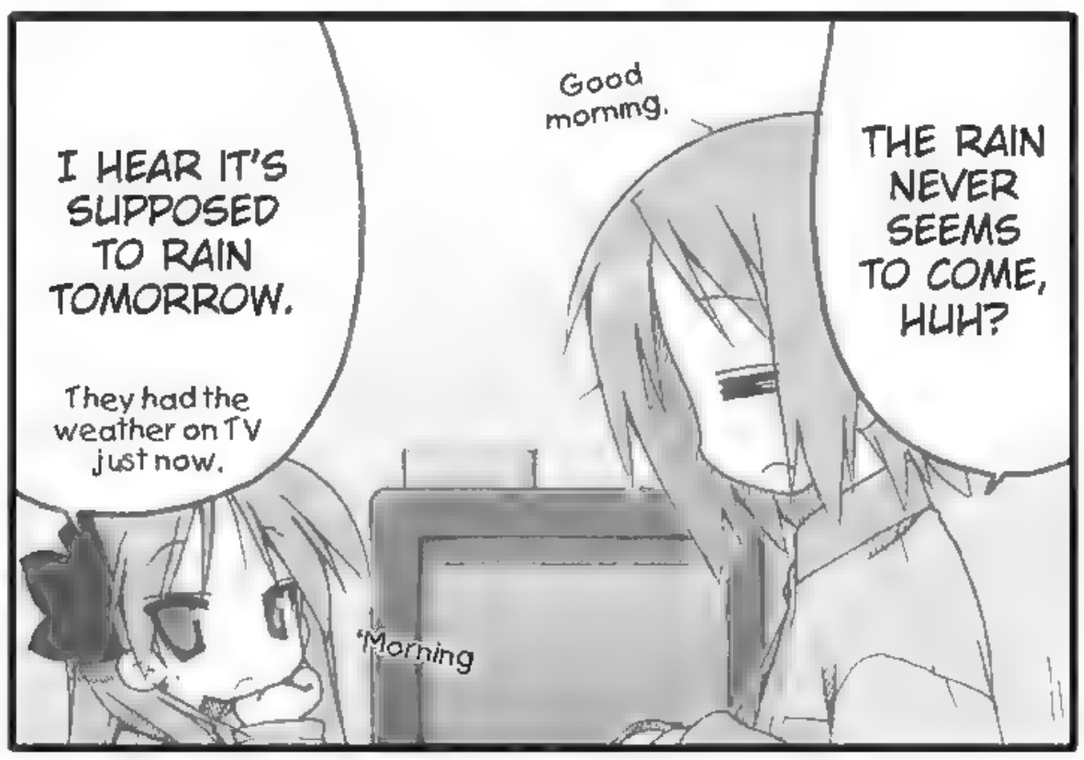
● Comptiq, August 2008 issue

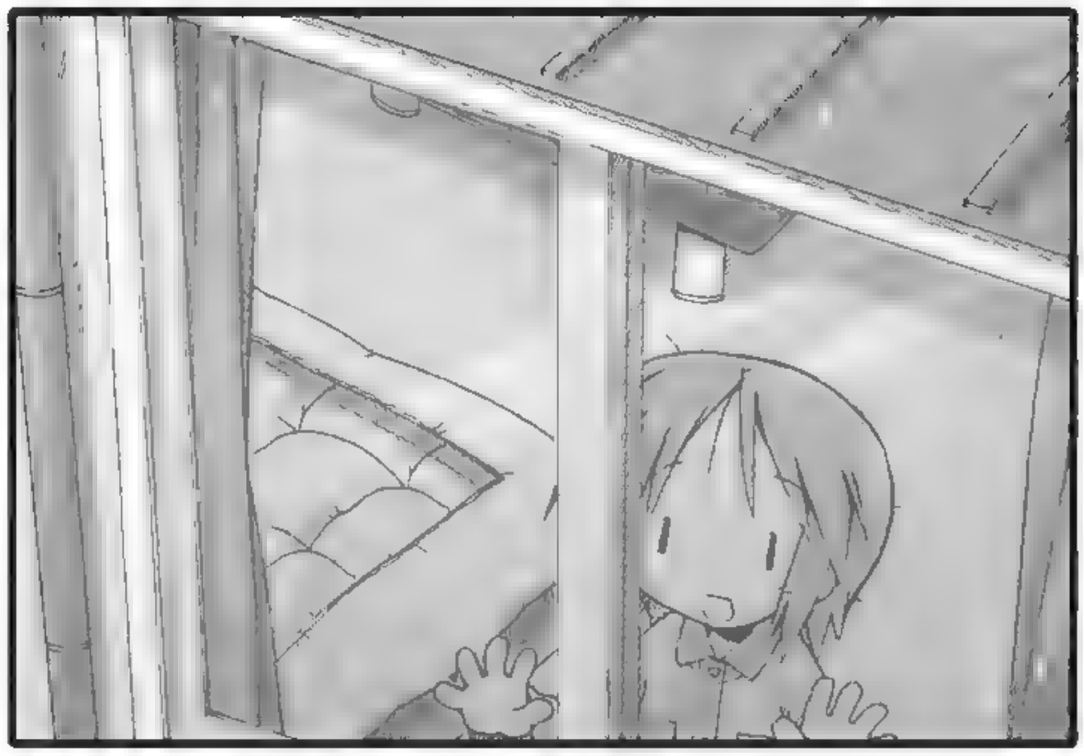
sunken



it figures

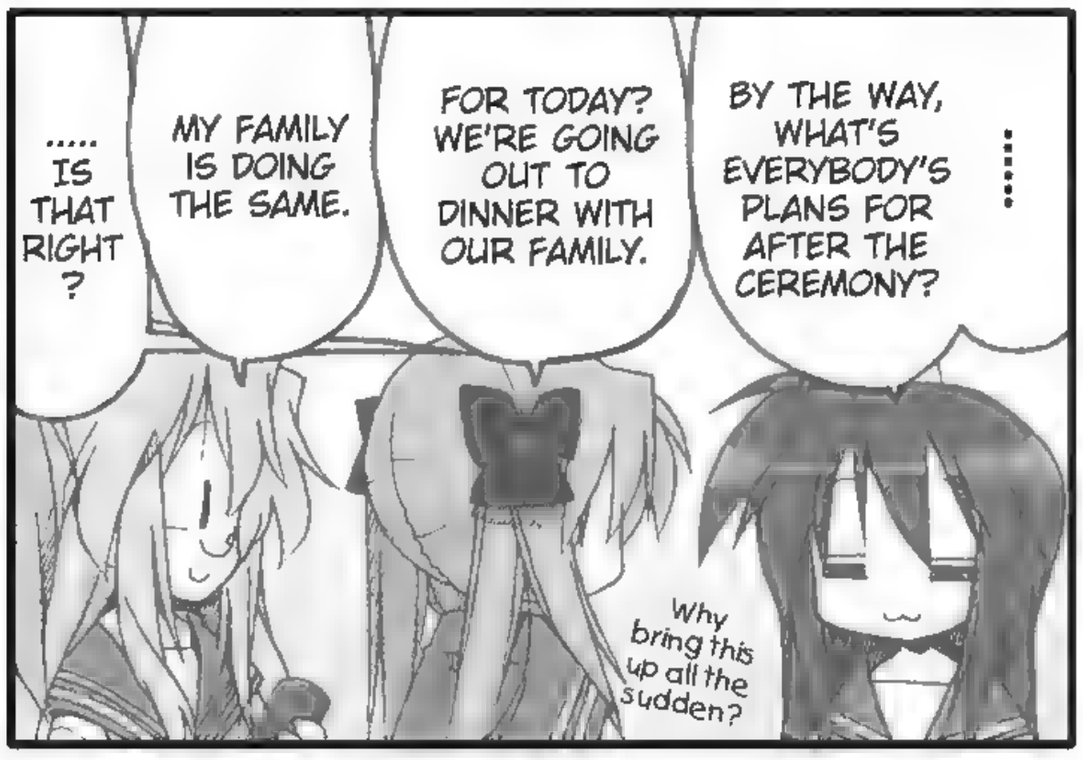



I HEAR IT'S SUPPOSED TO RAIN TOMORROW.
They had the weather on TV just now.
Good morning.
'Morning
THE RAIN NEVER SEEMS TO COME, HUH?



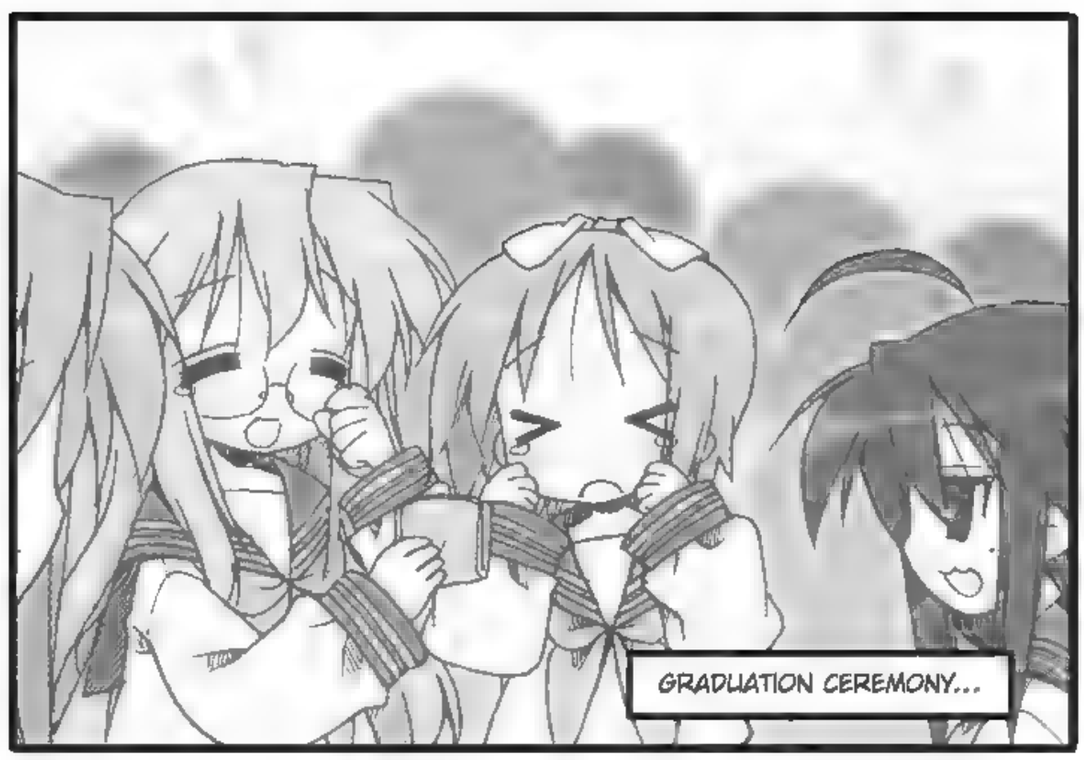
unexploded ammunition

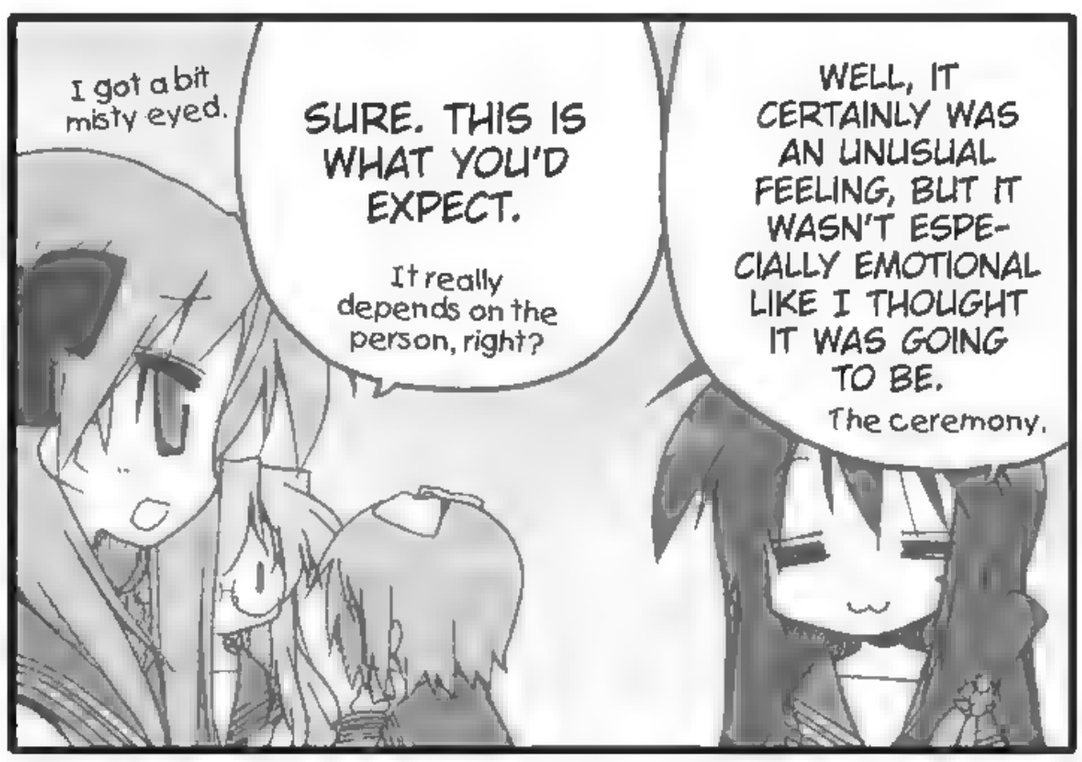
YOU'VE BEEN UNDER SOME POISONOUS INFLUENCES.
Those words prove that you're living in a dream world.
ISN'T THERE SOME KIND OF EVENT, LIKE "IT'S GRADUATION, SO CONFESS YOUR LOVE" TYPE THING?


..... IS THAT RIGHT ?
MY FAMILY IS DOING THE SAME.
FOR TODAY? WE'RE GOING OUT TO DINNER WITH OUR FAMILY.
BY THE WAY, WHAT'S EVERYBODY'S PLANS FOR AFTER THE CEREMONY?
.....
Why bring this up all the sudden?

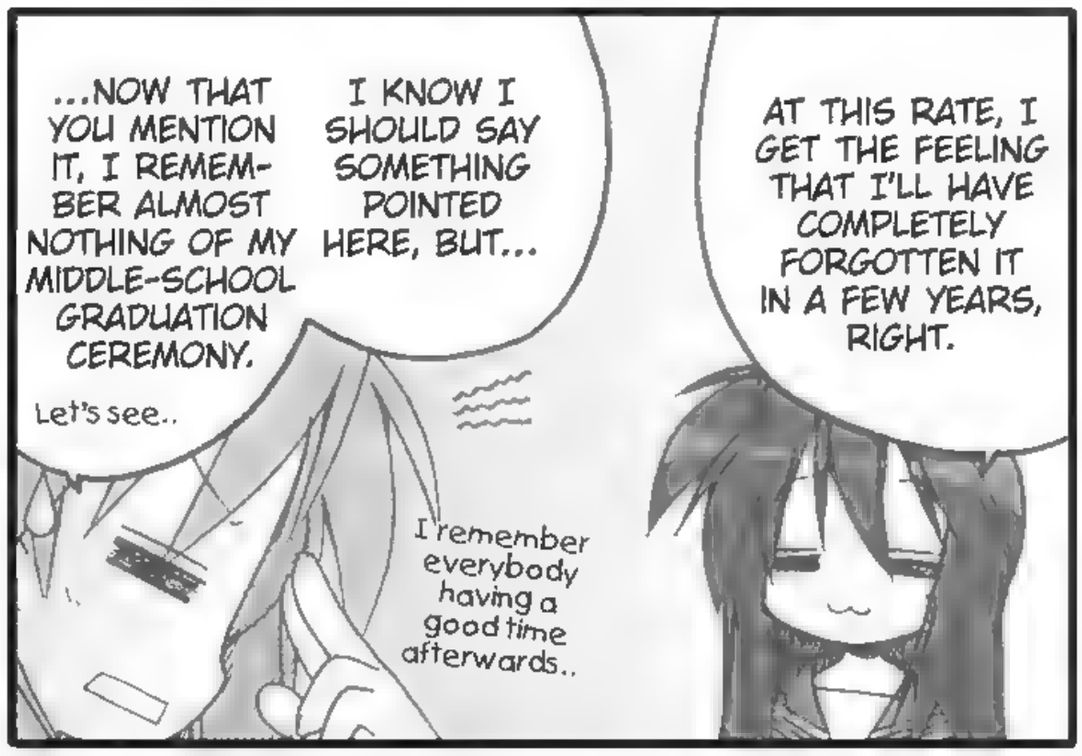
...AND NOW IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GO ANY-WHERE NEAR YOUR DESK!
This is really dull!
DAMMIT, KAG-AMI YOU JERK! I FIGURED AS A LAST TASTE OF HIGH-SCHOOL LIFE, I'D SET YOU UP WITH A FAKE LOVE LETTER...
So what's the deal?!
Tsk!

the scene everyone goes through




I got a bit misty eyed.
SURE. THIS IS WHAT YOU'D EXPECT.
It really depends on the person, right?
WELL, IT CERTAINLY WAS AN UNUSUAL FEELING, BUT IT WASN'T ESPE-CIALLY EMOTIONAL LIKE I THOUGHT IT WAS GOING TO BE.
The ceremony.

I WAS ALL EXCITED ANTICIPAT-ING SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
BUT YOU KNOW, IN MANGA AND THAT KIND OF THING, THE GRADUATION CEREMONY IS ALWAYS THE HUGE EMOTIONAL CLIMAX, RIGHT?


...NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I REMEM-BER ALMOST NOTHING OF MY MIDDLE-SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY.
Let's see..
I KNOW I SHOULD SAY SOMETHING POINTED HERE, BUT...
I remember everybody having a good time afterwards..
AT THIS RATE, I GET THE FEELING THAT I'LL HAVE COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN IT IN A FEW YEARS, RIGHT.

What do you think? Do you want your ears cleaned after so long?

Wow...I don't know. I'm feeling a little embarrassed...

• Tadao Hiiragi • Miki Hiiragi

What are you getting embarrassed now for?
A few years back, the girls were teasing me about it, so now I...
Ha ha...
They'd tease you about anything and everything at that age.
Yeah, maybe... (Not that anything has changed.)

Lucky☆Star

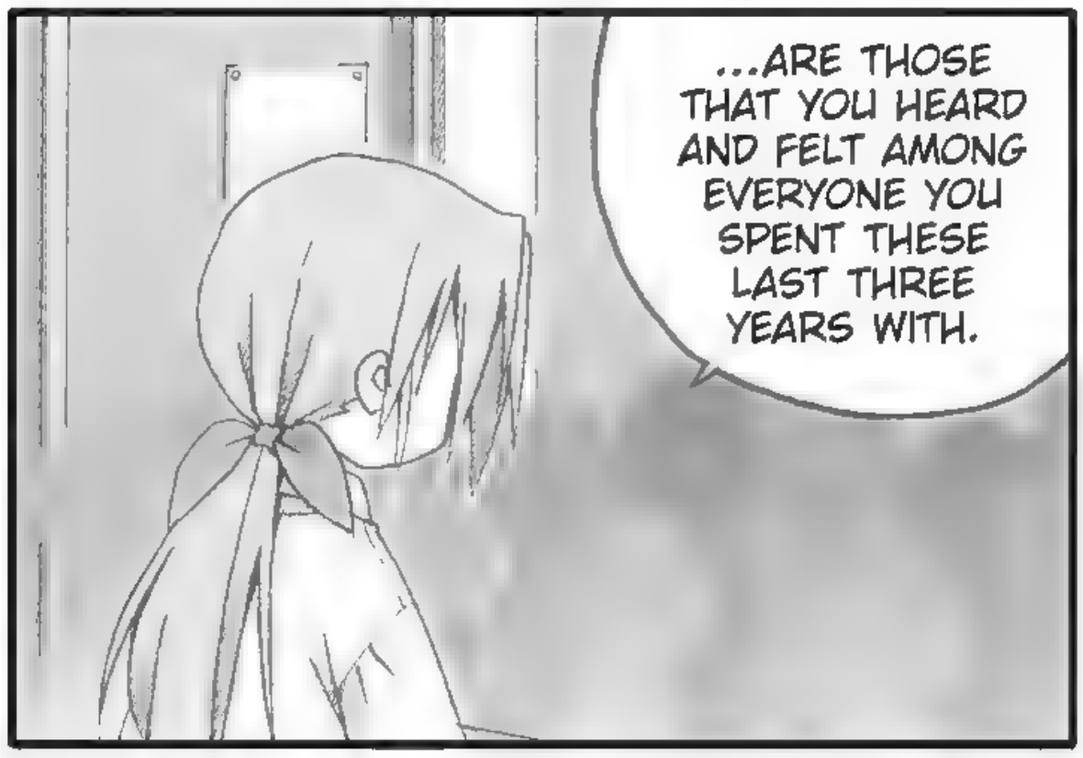
episode 170
nothing to mention

MAYBE I'LL STOP BY THE CENTER TODAY.
I'll show what an adult can do on that game.
I'd better get...
THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I SAW THAT LITTLE GIRL FROM THE GAME CENTER HERE AT SCHOOL.
my work done quick.

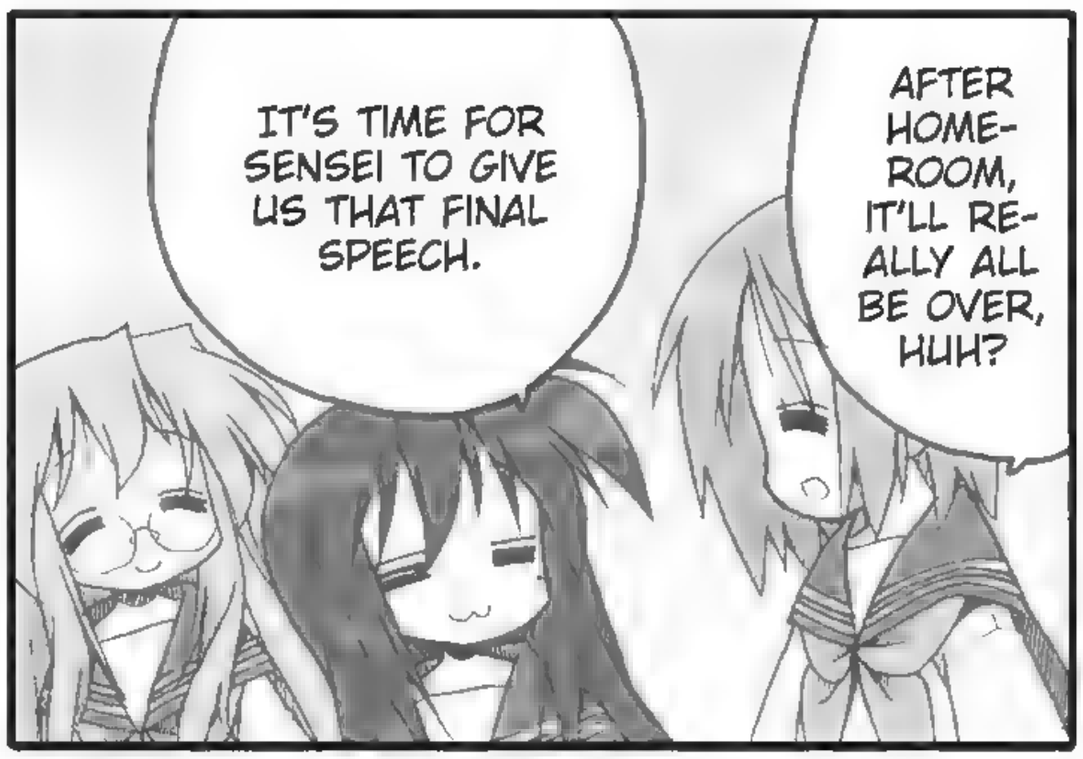
● Comptiq, September 2008 issue

IT WAS THE SAME FOR ME WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE...
...AND IF I GO ON AND ON, YOU'LL JUST FORGET EVERYTHING I SAID ANYWAY.

...I THINK THE WORDS AND FEELINGS THAT YOU REALLY SHOULD REMEMBER INSTEAD...
SO RATHER THAN MAKING A BIG SPEECH...


...ARE THOSE THAT YOU HEARD AND FELT AMONG EVERYONE YOU SPENT THESE LAST THREE YEARS WITH.

DOOOm
...WHY DON'T YOU JUST TALK AMONG YOURSELVES FOR A BIT, OKAY? OVER AND OUT!!
SO RATHER THAN LISTEN TO ME DRONING ON...
...the final "attention."
Takara, why don't you lead...

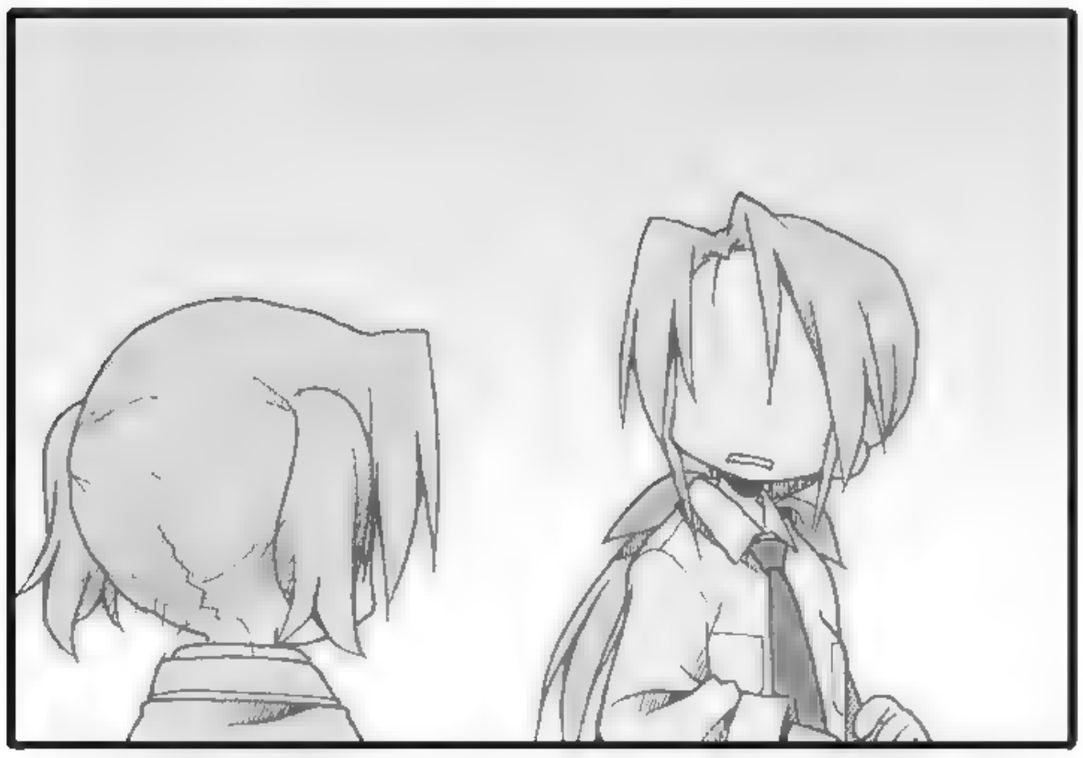

IT'S TIME FOR SENSEI TO GIVE US THAT FINAL SPEECH.
AFTER HOMEROOM, IT'LL REALLY ALL BE OVER, HUH?

AH HA HA! BUT THIS IS SENSEI WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, SO IT MIGHT BE OVER BEFORE WE REALIZE IT.
I MIGHT GET ALL CHOKED UP AGAIN.

WELL, THIS IS OUR VERY LAST HOMEROOM SESSION, BUT...
'SUP!

OH, WOW! THIS IS GOING TO GO AT EVEN A FASTER PACE THAT I IMAGINED!
I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANYTHING SPECIAL TO SAY TO YOU GUYS.

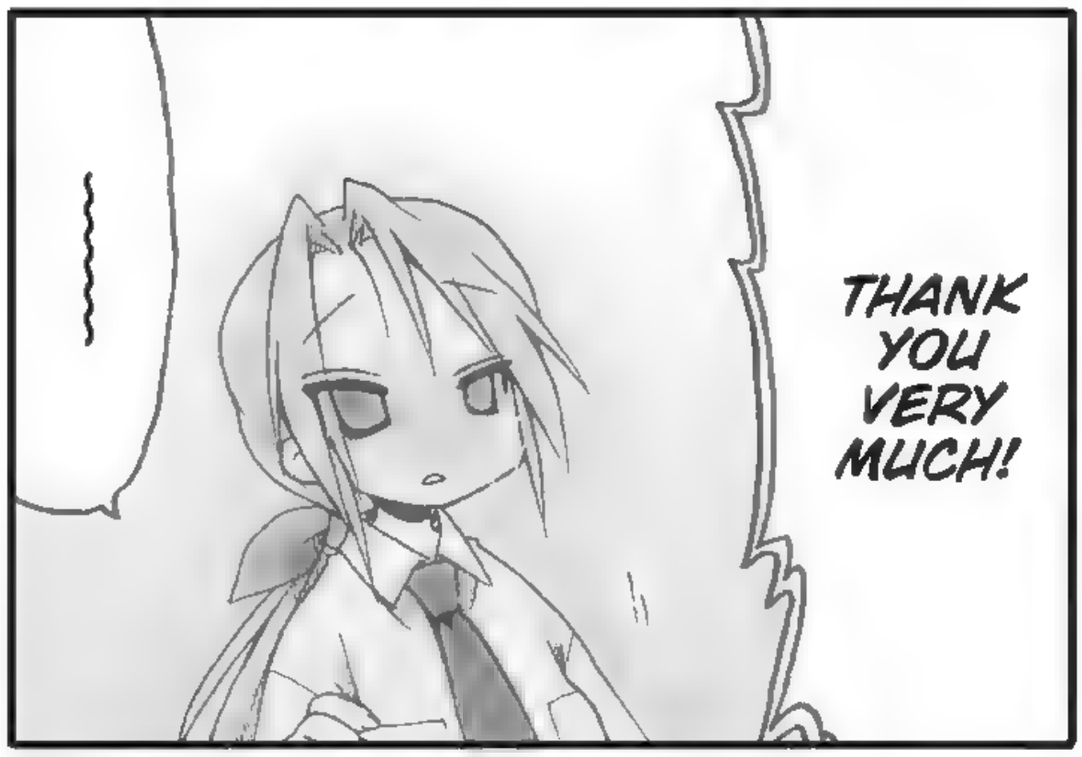
warning of flying dust



IT'S KIND OF NICE BEING A TEACHER, HUH?
YES?
..... KUROI-SENSEI?
YEAH, SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
OH, WHAT'S THIS? YOU GOT SOMETHING IN YOUR EYES TOO, SAKURABA-SENSEI?
.... YEAH, THAT'S TRUE.

feelings that fit into one phrase

...WE HAVE BEEN SAVED COUNTLESS TIMES BY YOUR FRIENDLINESS, WARMTH AND BRIGHT ATTITUDE.
..... KUROI-SENSEI ...
BOW!
YES, MA'AM! EVERY BODY, ATTENTION!



Ah! That one's pretty cool looking!

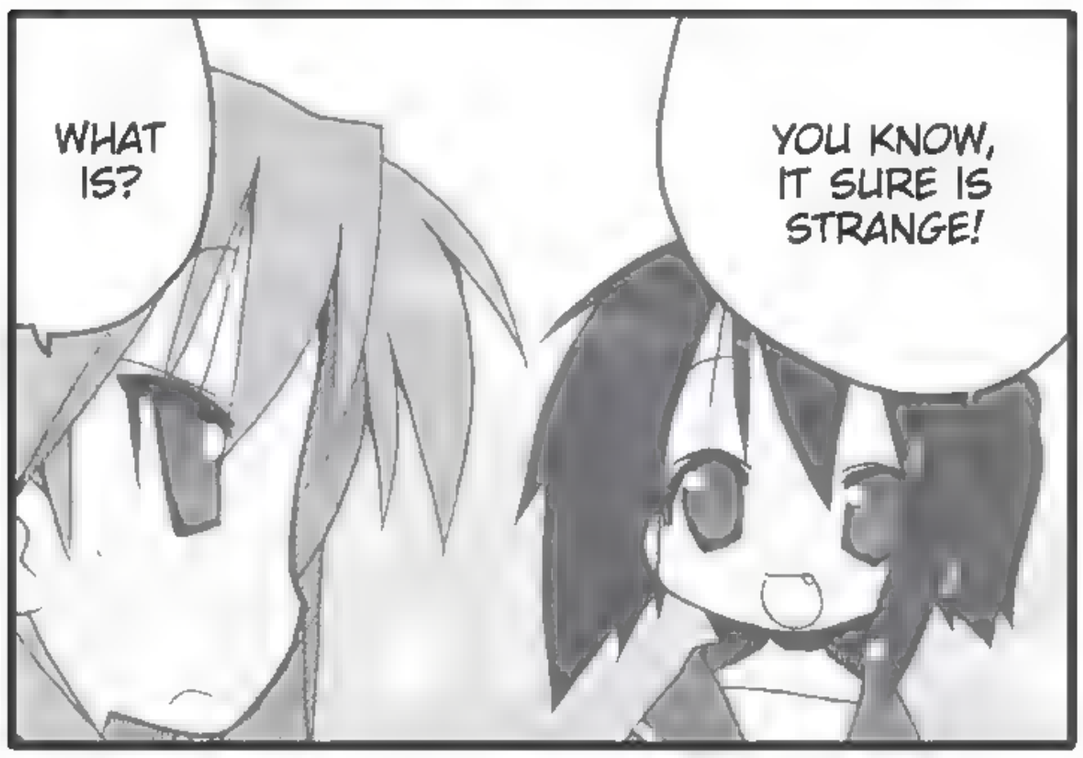
Wait, Matsuri! You're not weightless, you know!

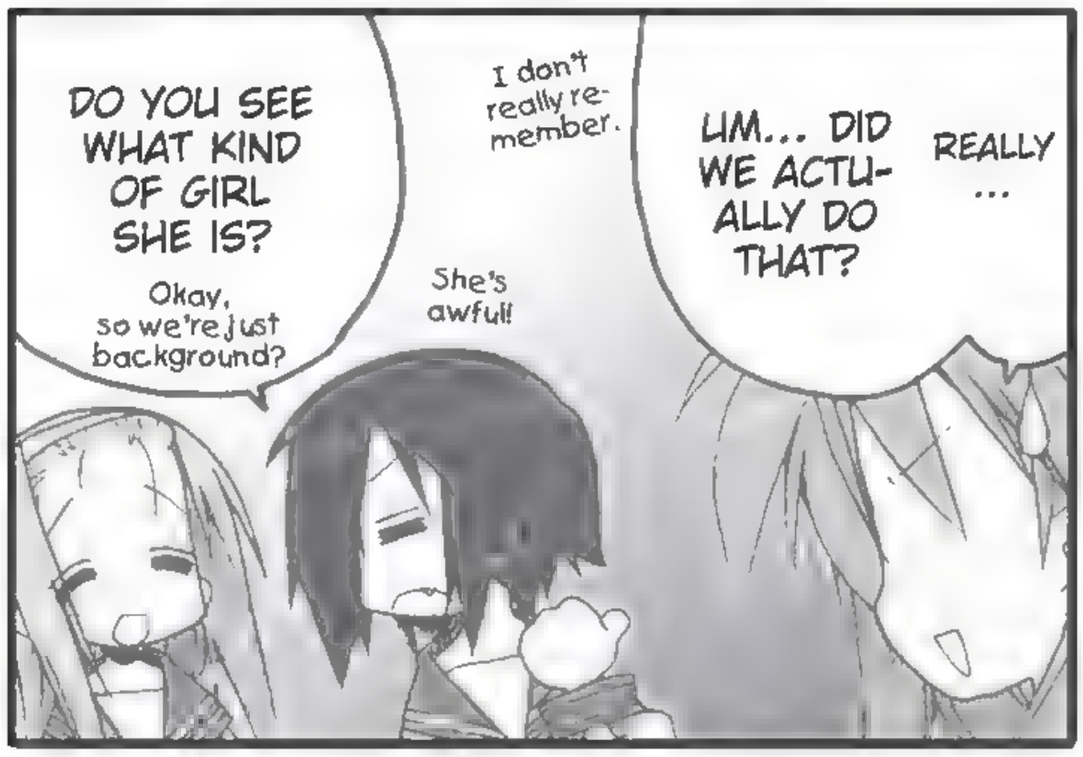
• Inori Hiiragi • Matsuri Hiiragi

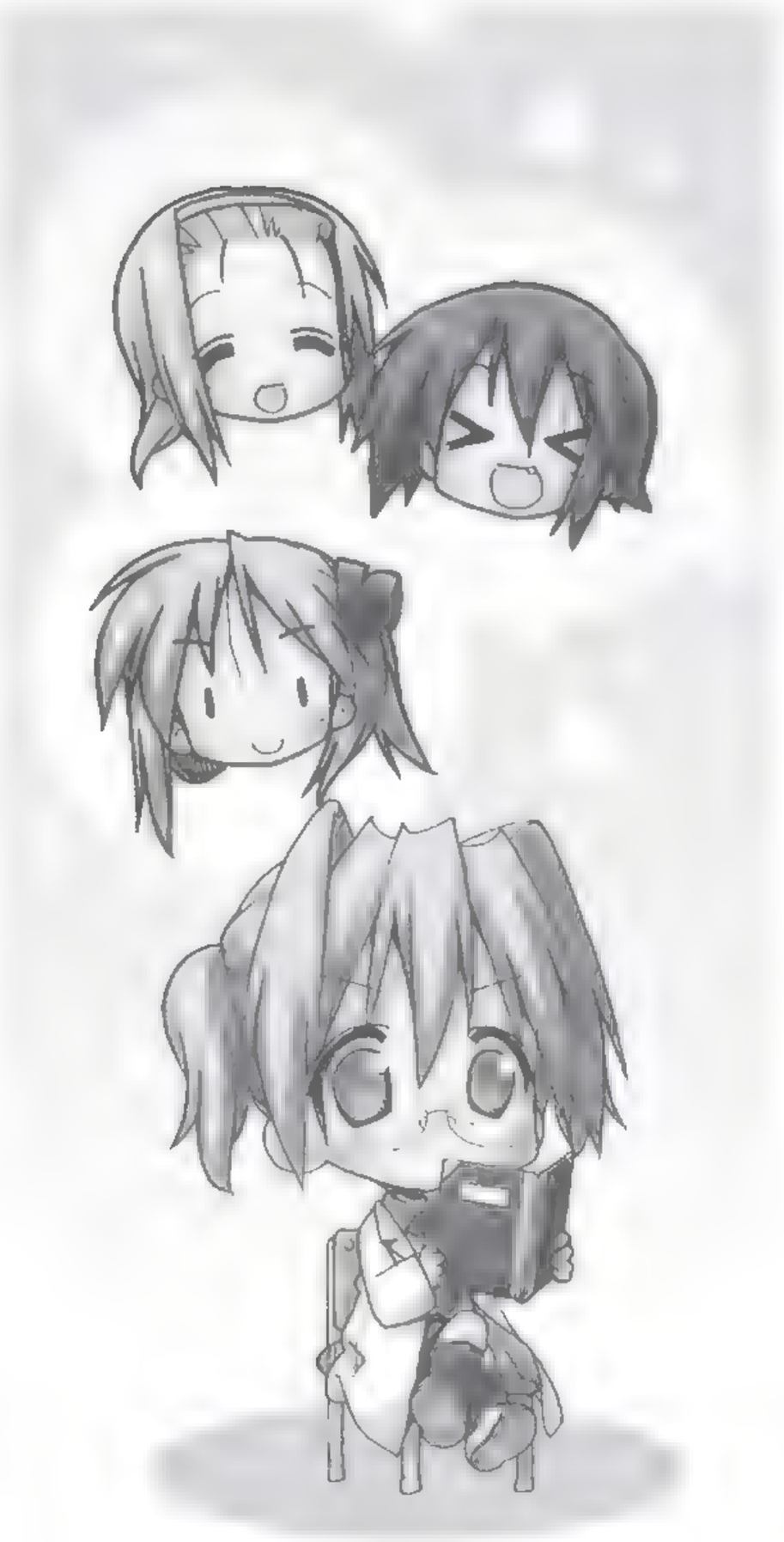
Get off! You're heavy!
I'm not heavy! It's just that compared to you,
Nee-san, I'm a little chunkier.
..... You really want to get punched?
..... Okay, sorry. I got carried away.

episode 171
at the same rate

the girls at that time

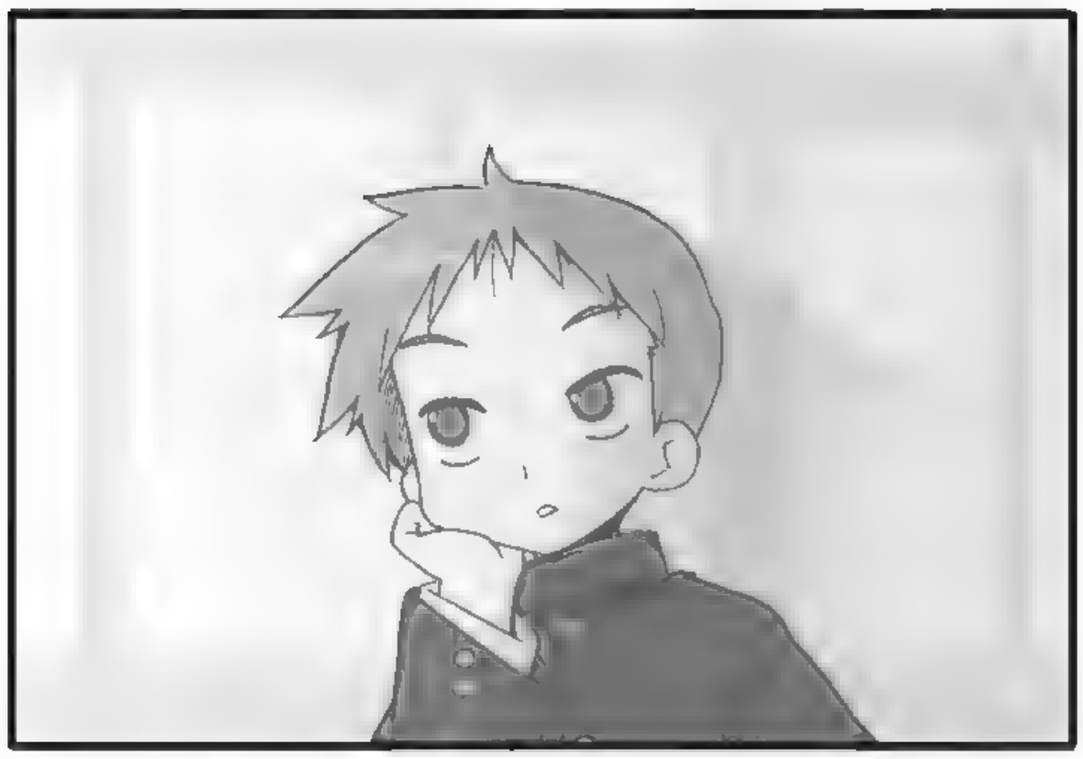


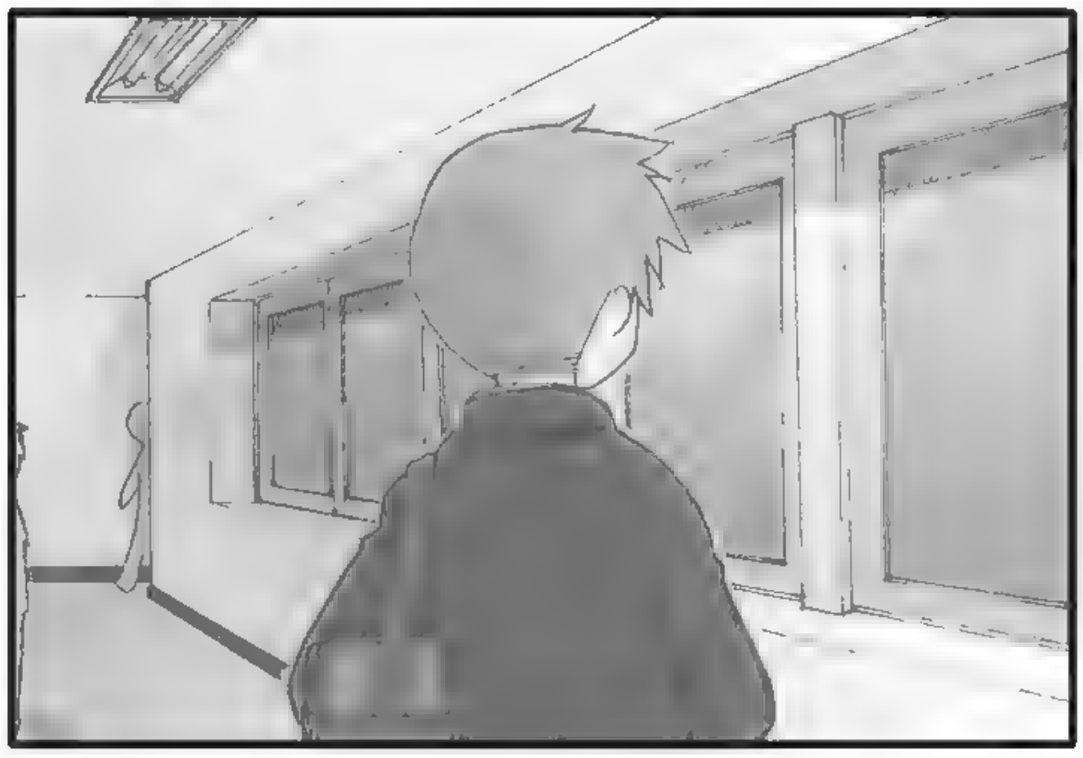

DO YOU SEE WHAT KIND OF GIRL SHE IS?
Okay, so we're just background?
I don't really re-member.
She's awful!
UM... DID WE ACTU-ALLY DO THAT?
REALLY ...



● Comptiq, September 2008 issue

daily life of young man b





...BUT IN THE END, IT WAS JUST LIKE EVERY OTHER DAY!
IT WAS GRADUATION DAY, SO I COULDN'T HELP BUT THINK THAT SOMETHING SPECIAL WAS GOING TO HAPPEN...
VIVA...
...DAILY LIFE!

the melancholy of young man a

the dream-like life

...chan... Onee-chan!

...wake up...You'll be late...

GOOD MORN-ING!

YAWWN... IS IT THAT LATE AL-READY?

mmmmm

AH HA HA! WELL YOU WERE SLEEPING A LOT DEEPER AND LONGER THAN NORMAL, ONEE-CHAN.

WOW, IT SEEMS LIKE I'VE BEEN SLEEPING FOR YEARS!

BY THE WAY, I WAS WONDERING SOME-THING...

If I don't hurry, I'll be late getting to driver's school.

YOU HAVE A POINT. I'LL CHANGE IT WHEN A PICTURE I LIKE BETTER COMES ALONG.

AREN'T YOU EVER GOING TO CHANGE YOUR CALENDAR? DON'T YOU MISTAKE IT FOR THE CURRENT ONE WHEN YOU'RE IN A RUSH?

I have other calendars for that.

possibility

I FORGOT TO ASK WHICH COLLEGE, THOUGH.

AH, YEAH. I HEARD THAT TOO.

Ah, you got your pictures printed.

COME TO THINK OF IT, I HEAR KONATA GOT INTO A COLLEGE?

WELL IT CAN'T BE ANYTHING LIKE TODAI OR MEIJI, RIGHT?

IT'S KONA-CHAN, SO IT'S PROBABLY A COLLEGE NEAR AKI-HABARA, HUH?

W-WAIT, WHY DON'T I GIVE HER A CALL...?

I can tell her about the photos...

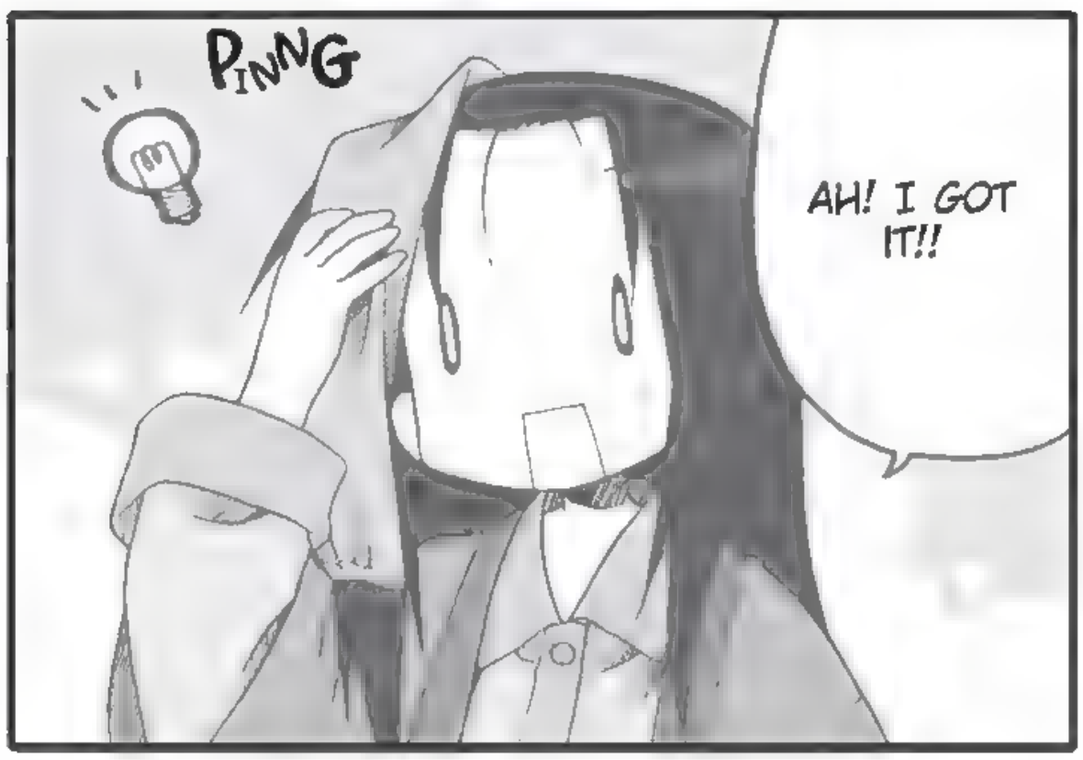
N-NO... NOT HER! NO WAY... BUT WAIT, IT COULD...

Onee-chan, it's great
to be alive, huh?

Ah ha! Thanks to you!

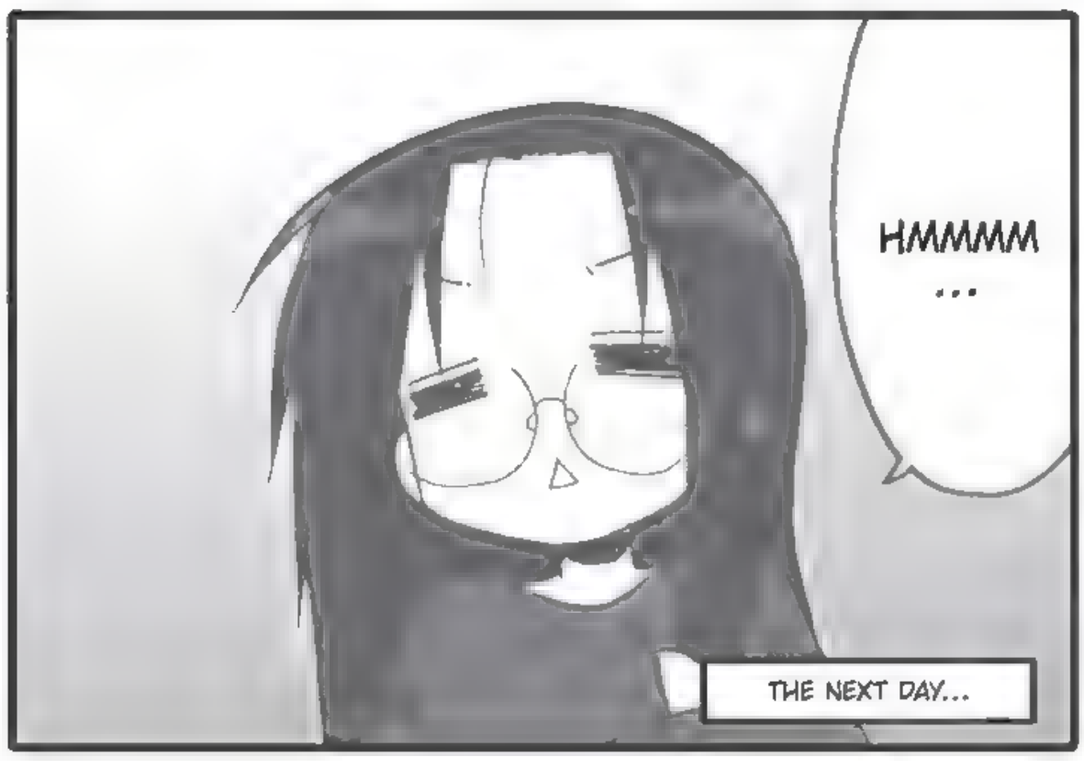
• Hinata Miyakawa • Hikage Miyakawa

Does it feel good?
It feels so goodI could die now!
It's from constant work, so when you're off work, why not rest
instead of watching all that anime!
If you took away my anime, it'd turn into a nervous disorder.



Lucky☆Star

episode 172
his and her daily life



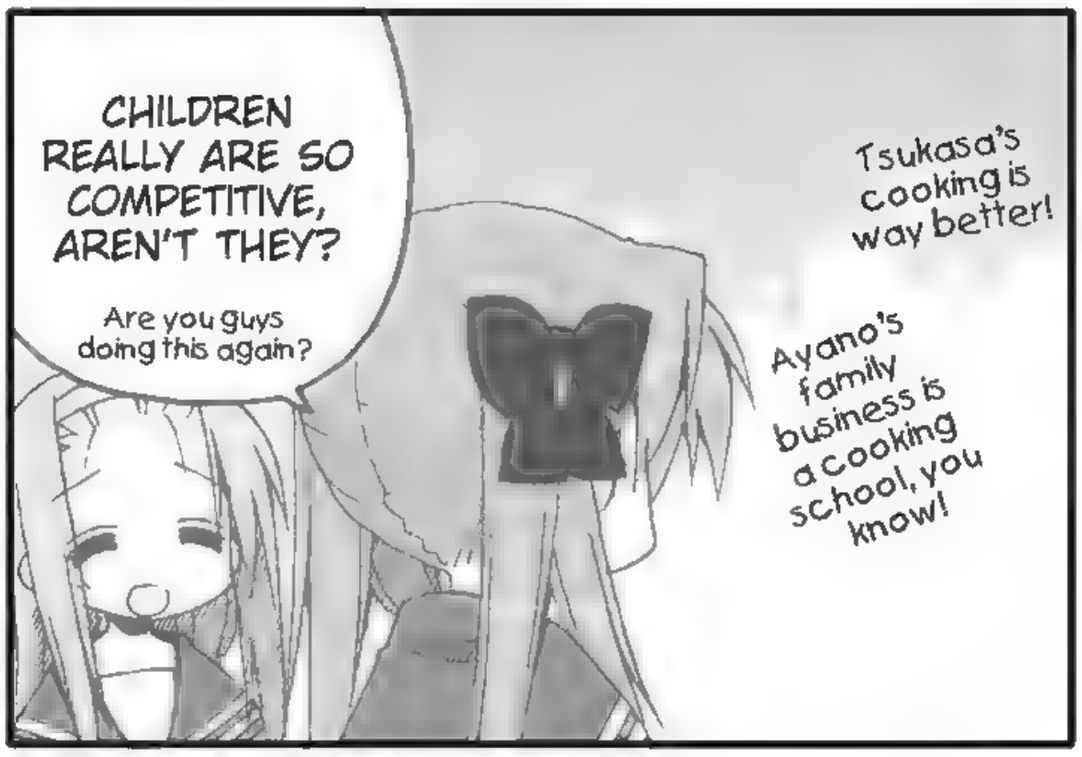
● Comp Ace, November 2007 issue

the existence of light and shadow

BUT THAT'S ONE THING I REALLY LIKE ABOUT MISA-CHAN.
I'm made very happy when she says..
ALTHOUGH SHE CAN BE TOO HIGH SPIRITED.
IT'D TAKE A WHILE TO GO INTO DETAILS, BUT SHE TAKES CARE OF ME IN WAYS TOO.
..that we're friends.

THAT ONE SHOULD BE THANKFUL THAT THERE IS A PERSON IN THE WORLD WHO UNDER-STANDS HER.
HUH? I GUESS THERE ARE SAINTS IN THE WORLD.

that's me! no, me!


CHILDREN REALLY ARE SO COMPETITIVE, AREN'T THEY?
Are you guys doing this again?
Tsukasa's cooking is way better!
Ayano's family business is a cooking school, you know!

HELLO? OH... KAGAMI?
SUMMER VACATION...

'SUUUP... OH, HII-RAGI?
SUMMER VACATION...

Ha ha ha! It's vacation. No reason to be so harsh.
Her too, huh?
YOU SOUND EXTREMELY LAZY.

Well, why not? It's vacation, and that's what happens.
YOU SOUND EXTREMELY LAZY!

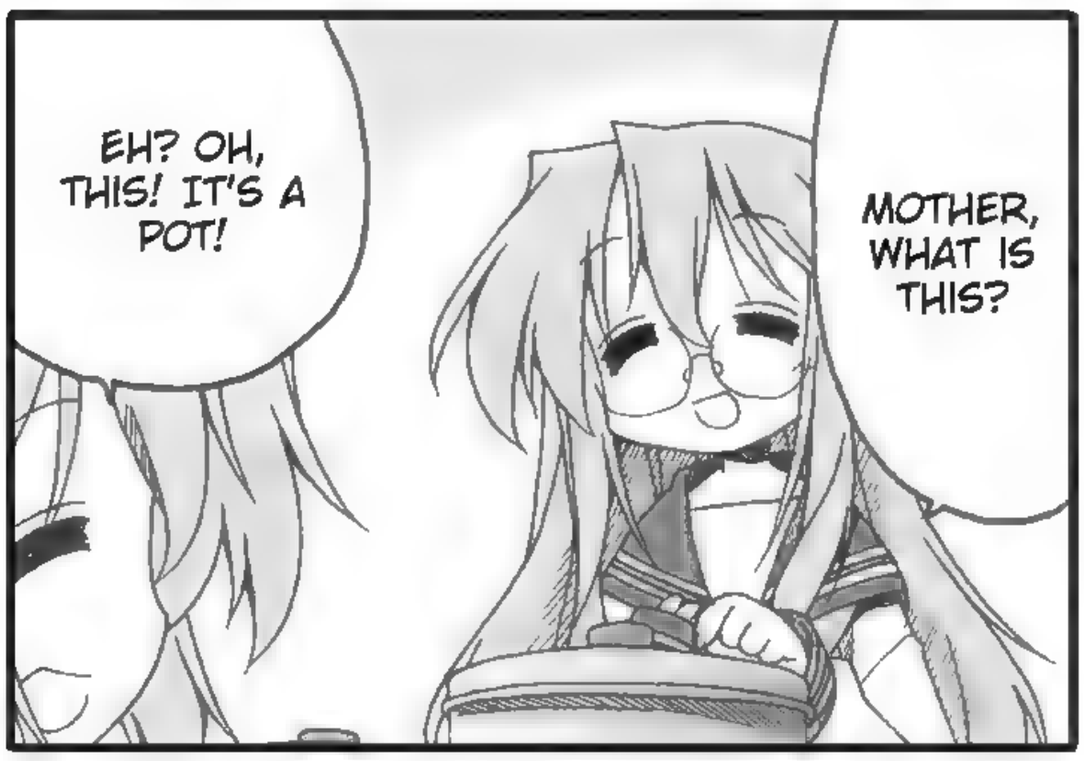
YOU MEAN THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW? YEAH, FINE.
S-So you actually have a sense of what day it is?
That's rare for you!
I was thinking about this Sunday. Is that good for you?

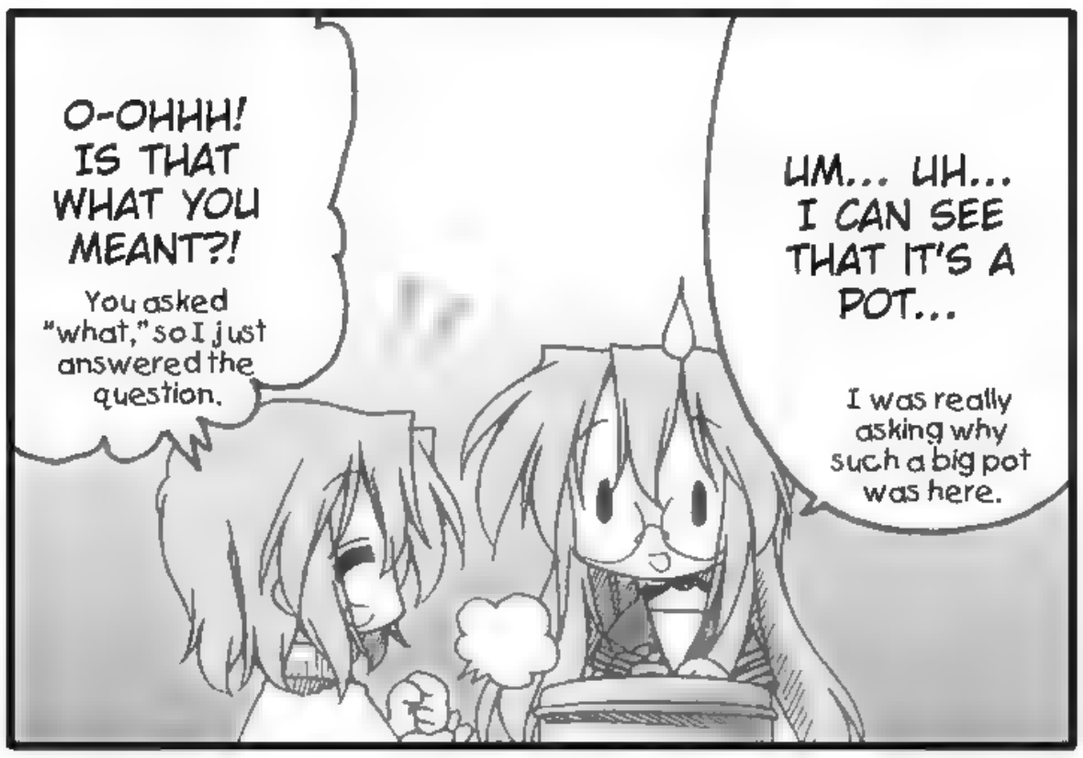
..... BUT THAT BRINGS UP A QUES-TION...
MM? SURE. FINE. FINE.
Anyway, I was think-ing of this Sunday. Is that good for you?

IS THAT HOW YOU REMEM-BER?!
Of course I do! When you watch late-night anime every night, you have to know!

IN OTHER WORDS, IT IS COM-PLETELY "NOT FINE," HUH?
With your sense of time.
What day is it sup-posed to be today?

airhead



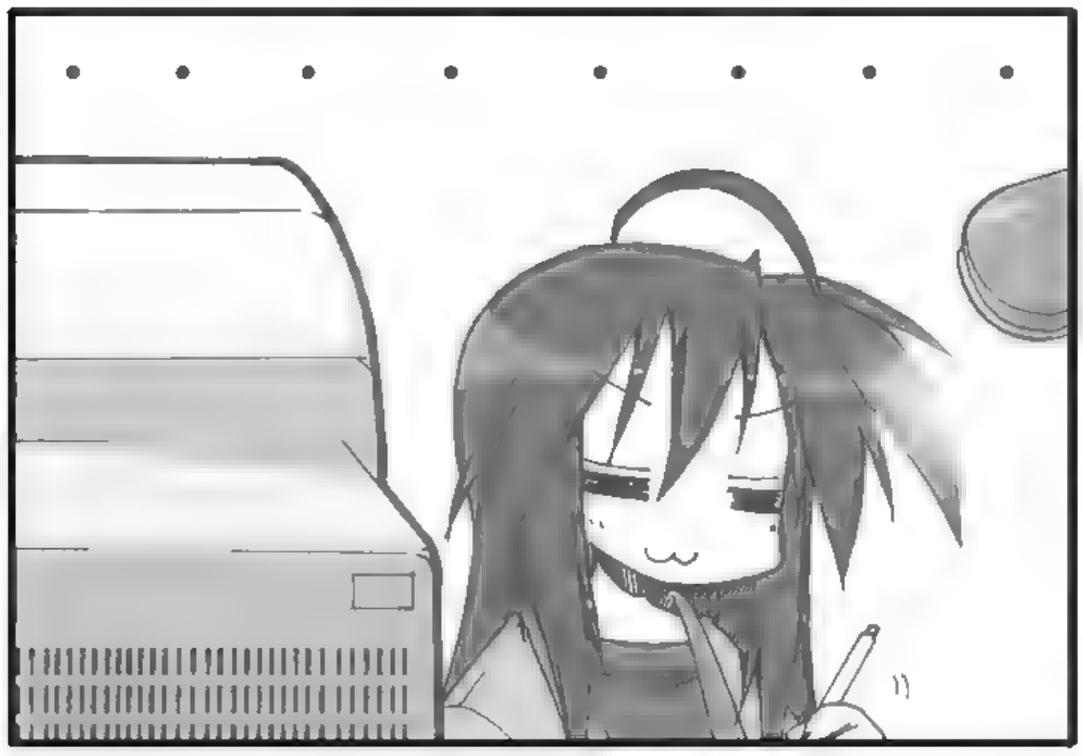

O-OHHH! IS THAT WHAT YOU MEANT?!
You asked "what," so I just answered the question.
UM... UH... I CAN SEE THAT IT'S A POT...
I was really asking why such a big pot was here.

Lucky☆Star

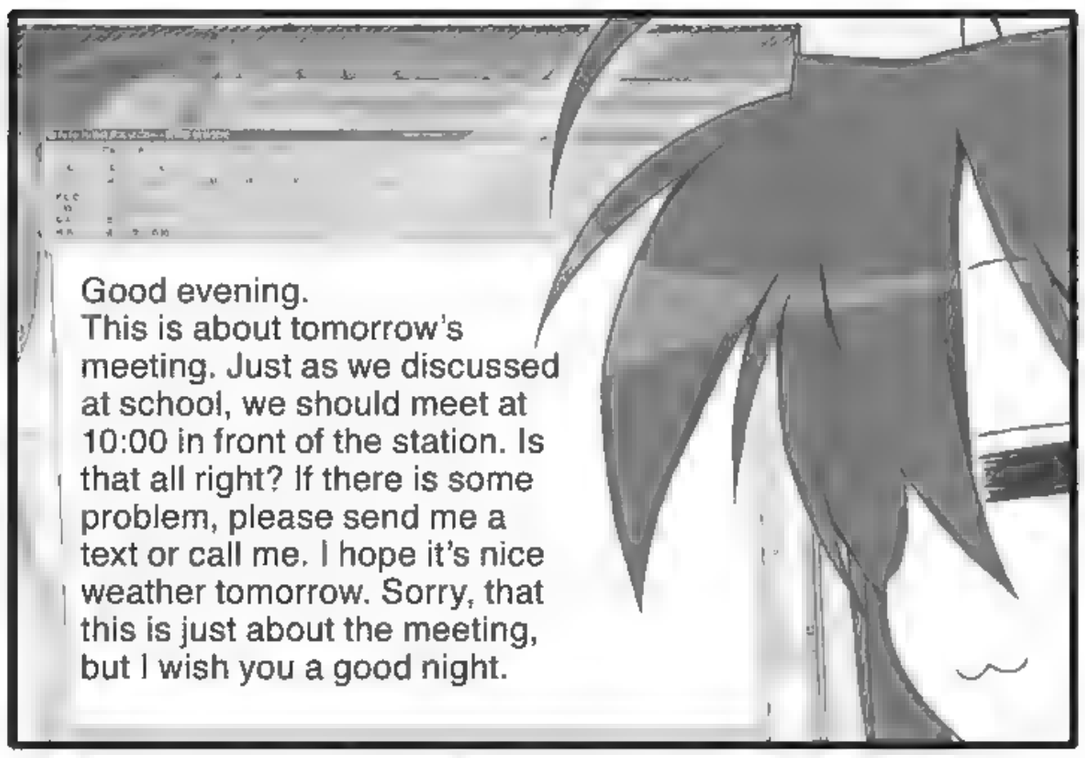
episode 173
that worrisome age

● Comp Ace, December 2007 issue

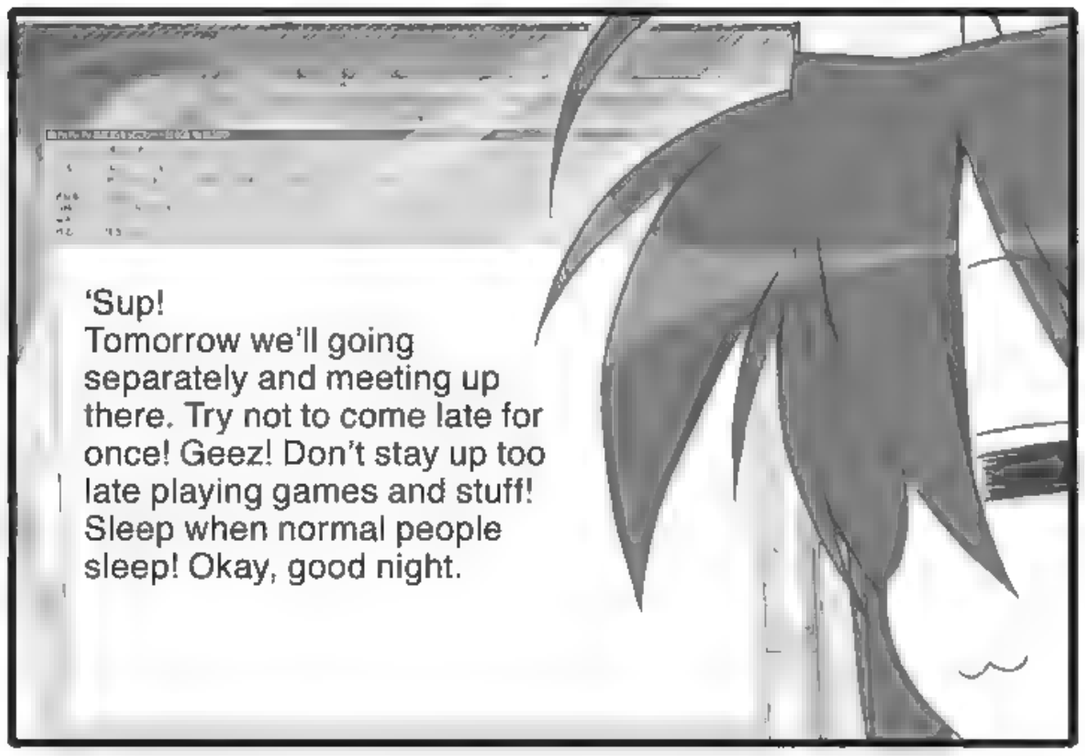
a soul unable to pull away

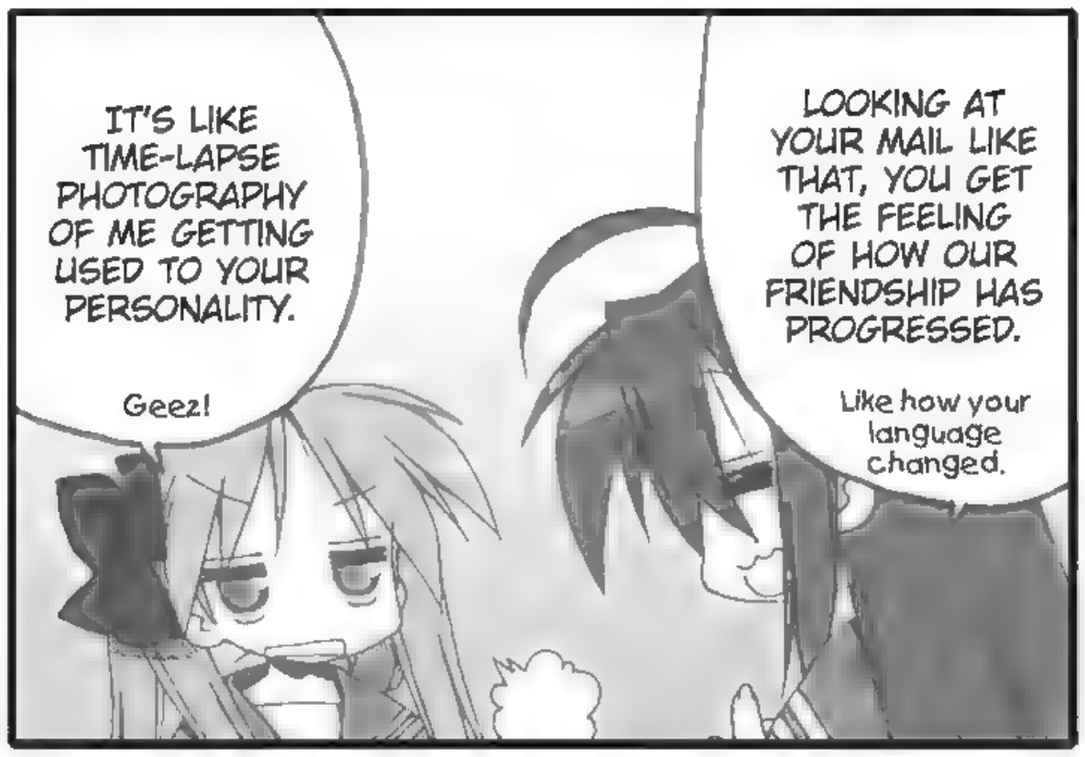


used to

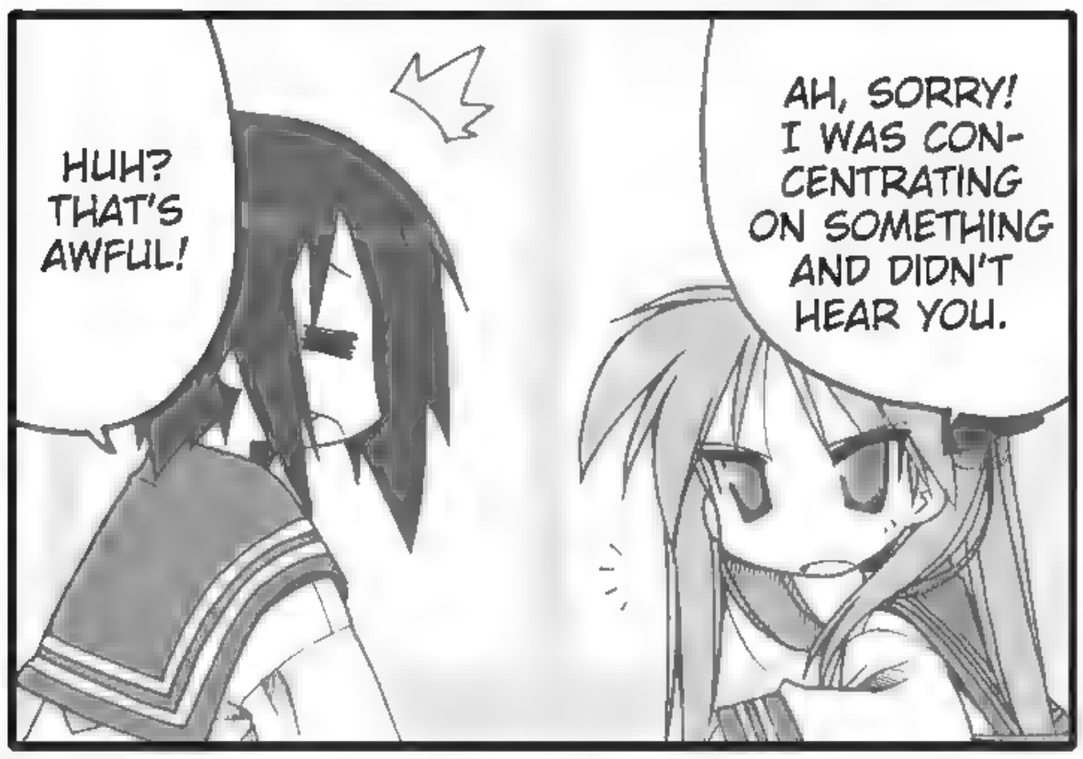

Good evening.
This is about tomorrow's meeting. Just as we discussed at school, we should meet at 10:00 in front of the station. Is that all right? If there is some problem, please send me a text or call me. I hope it's nice weather tomorrow. Sorry, that this is just about the meeting, but I wish you a good night.

Yahoo!
About the next plan, let's meet at the same old place at 1:00, okay? If it looks like you're going to be late, it'd help a lot if you contact me early. Right, I'm going to bed now. Good night.


'Sup!
Tomorrow we'll going separately and meeting up there. Try not to come late for once! Geez! Don't stay up too late playing games and stuff! Sleep when normal people sleep! Okay, good night.

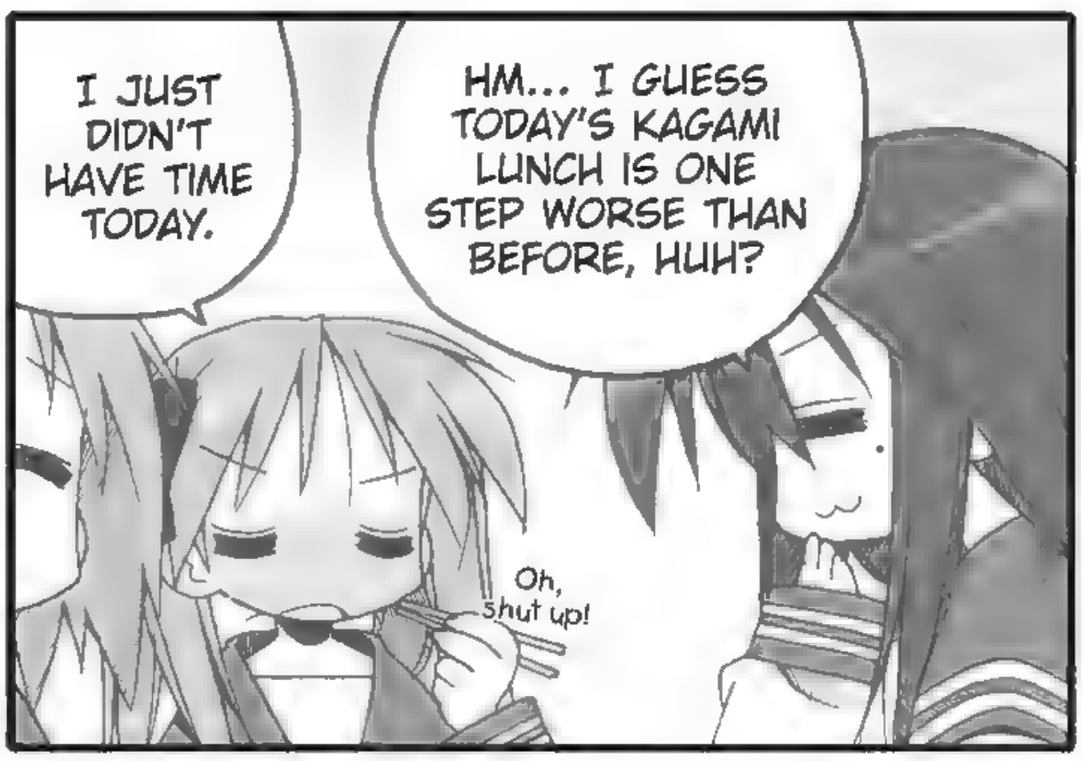

IT'S LIKE TIME-LAPSE PHOTOGRAPHY OF ME GETTING USED TO YOUR PERSONALITY.
Geez!
LOOKING AT YOUR MAIL LIKE THAT, YOU GET THE FEELING OF HOW OUR FRIENDSHIP HAS PROGRESSED.
Like how your language changed.

hit and away



IT'S JUST EMBAR-RASSING TO TELL A JOKE AGAIN THAT SOMEBODY COMPLETELY IGNORED THE FIRST TIME!
SHUT UP, OKAY?
NOW YOU'RE MAKING ME CURIOUS! WHAT DID YOU SAY?
This time, I'm really listening!

strangeness

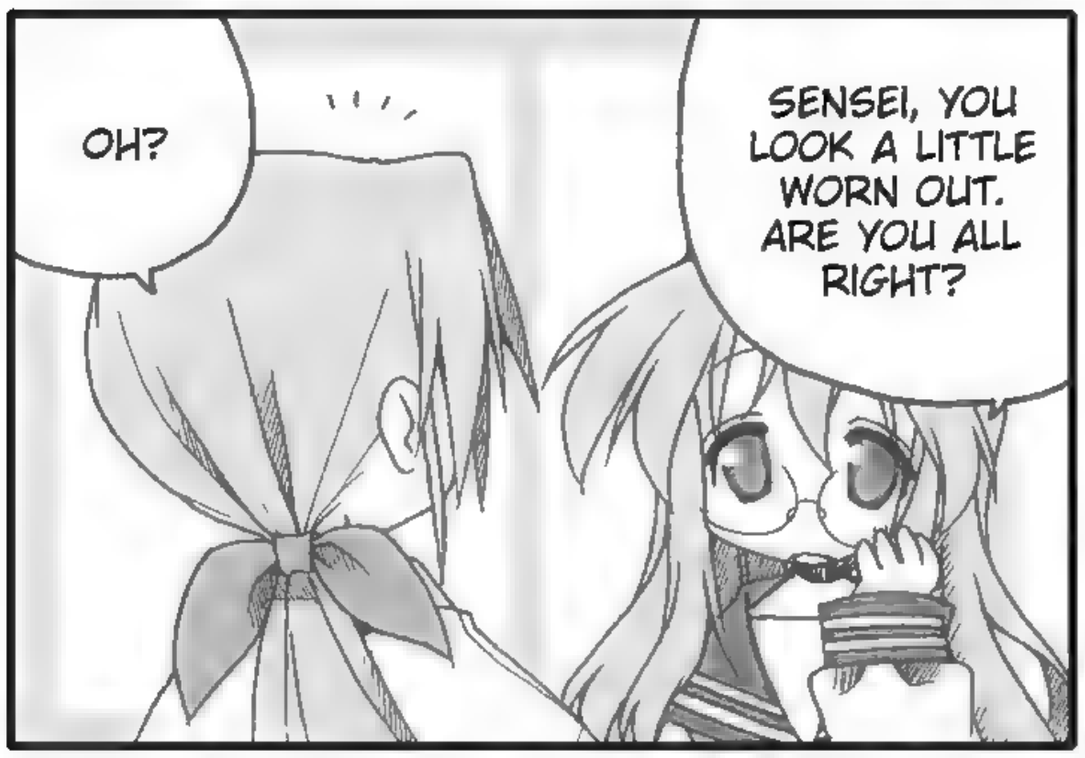


BUT ON THAT SUBJECT, WHENEVER YOU TALK THAT WAY, I ALWAYS WONDER...
WELL THERE'S NOBODY LIKE THAT IN REALITY.
The killer bento box!
IF YOU EVER GOT YOURSELF A BOY-FRIEND, I'M SURE YOU'D DO THAT THING! MAKING HIM FAINT FROM THE TERRIBLE LUNCH YOU FIXED!
Don't poke me!

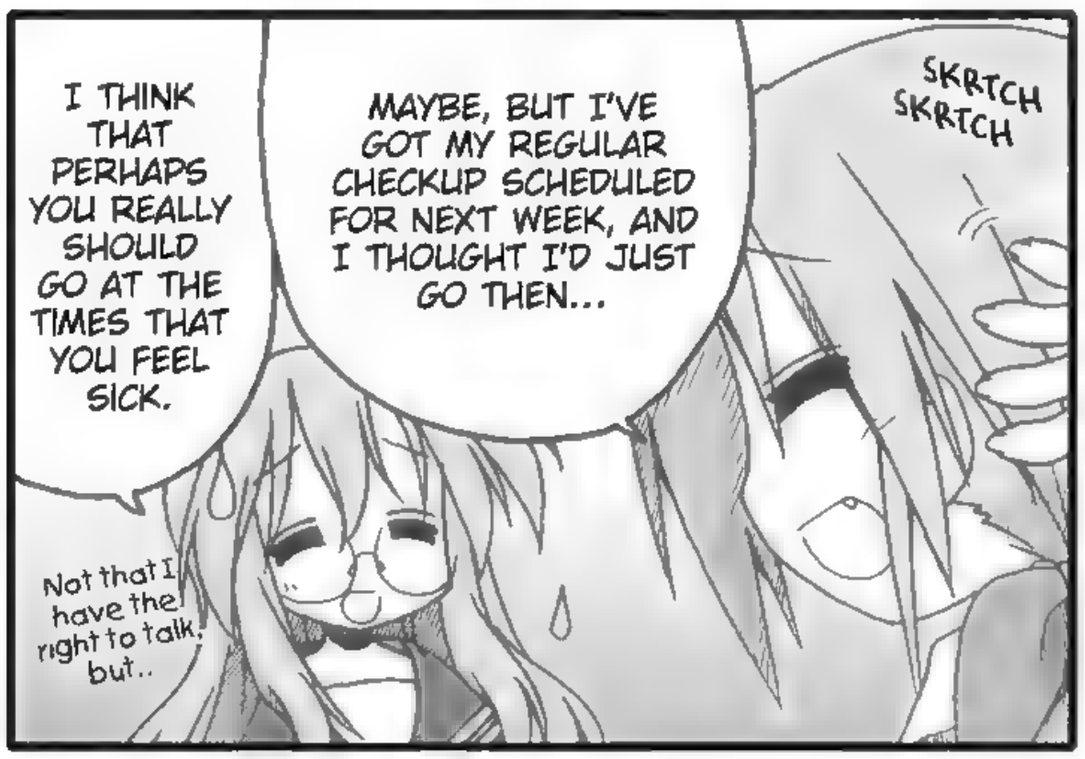
HA HA HA! WHEN ONE IS TRYING FOR MOE, ONE STRIVES FOR THE IDEAL! RE-ALITY DOESN'T ENTER INTO THE EQUATION, KAGAMIN!
IF IT WERE ME MAKING SOME-THING FOR THE GUY I LIKED, I'D BE DOING EVERY-THING I COULD TO BE SURE IT'S DELICIOUS!
WHY DON'T THOSE KIND OF CHARAC-TERS EVER TASTE-TEST THEIR OWN COOKING?

Lucky☆Star

episode 174
bad girl

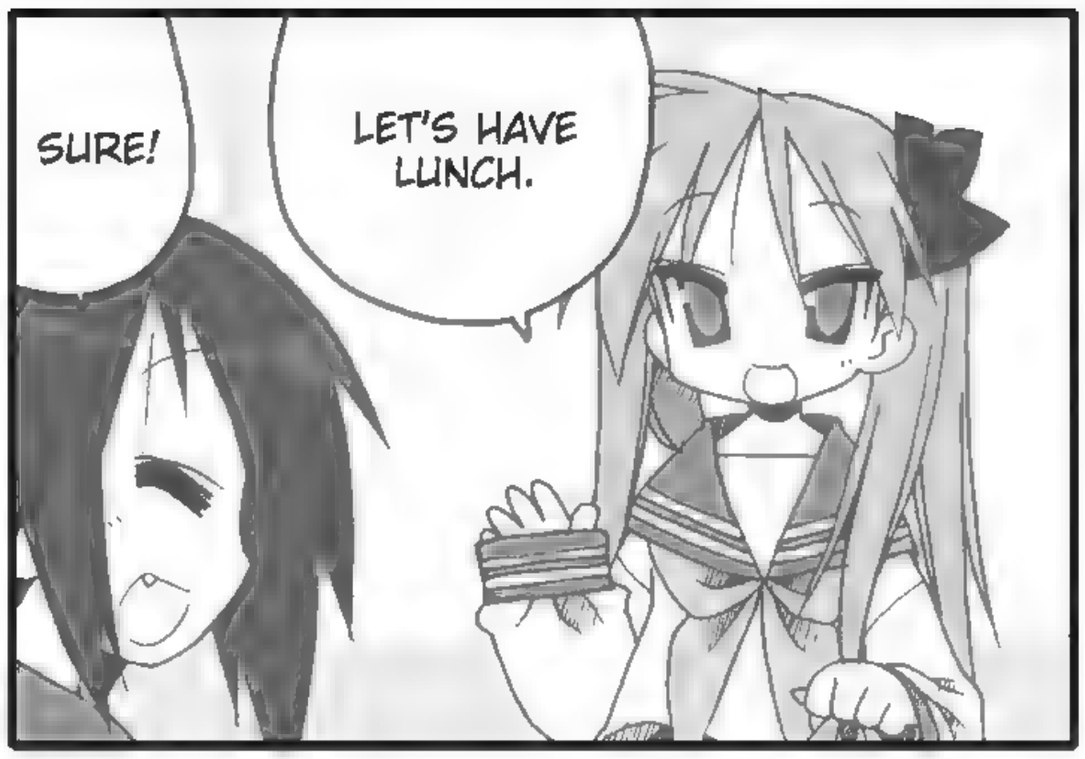


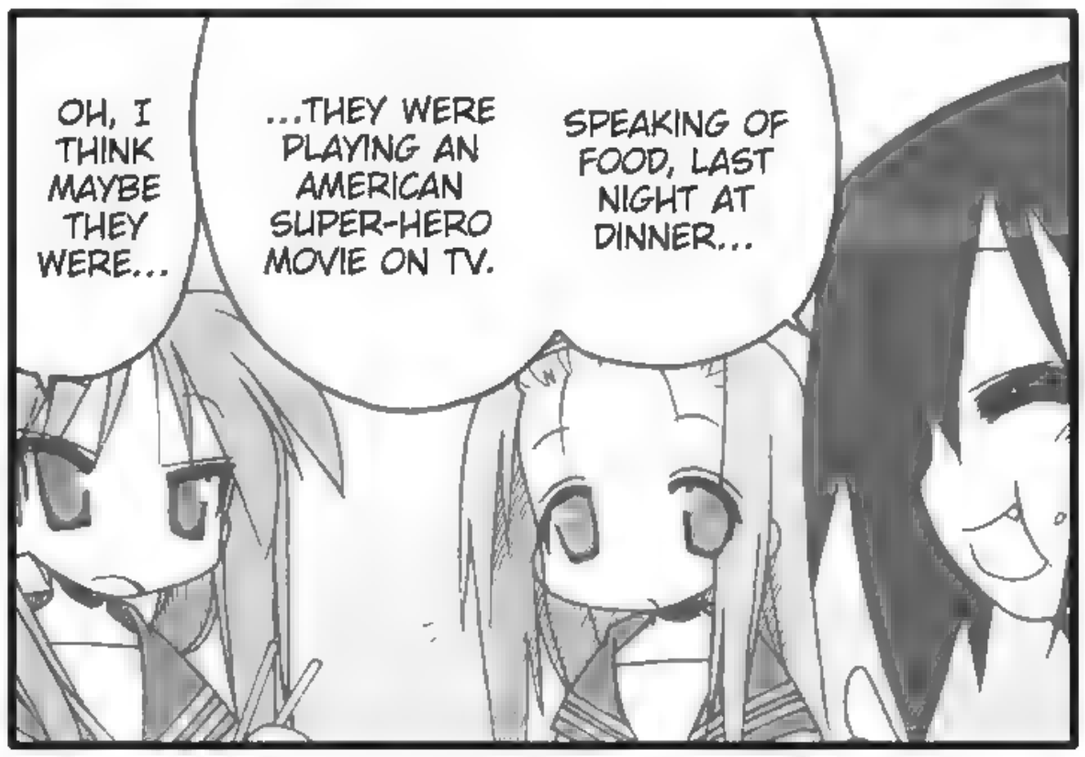
OH, DEAR! ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE YOURSELF CHECKED OUT AT THE DOCTOR'S?
OH, IT'S NOTHING! I'VE JUST BEEN FEELING A LITTLE TIRED THESE PAST FEW DAYS.
I think it's nothing more than something like a cold.


I THINK THAT PERHAPS YOU REALLY SHOULD GO AT THE TIMES THAT YOU FEEL SICK.
MAYBE, BUT I'VE GOT MY REGULAR CHECKUP SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK, AND I THOUGHT I'D JUST GO THEN...
SKRTCH SKRTCH
Not that I have the right to talk, but..

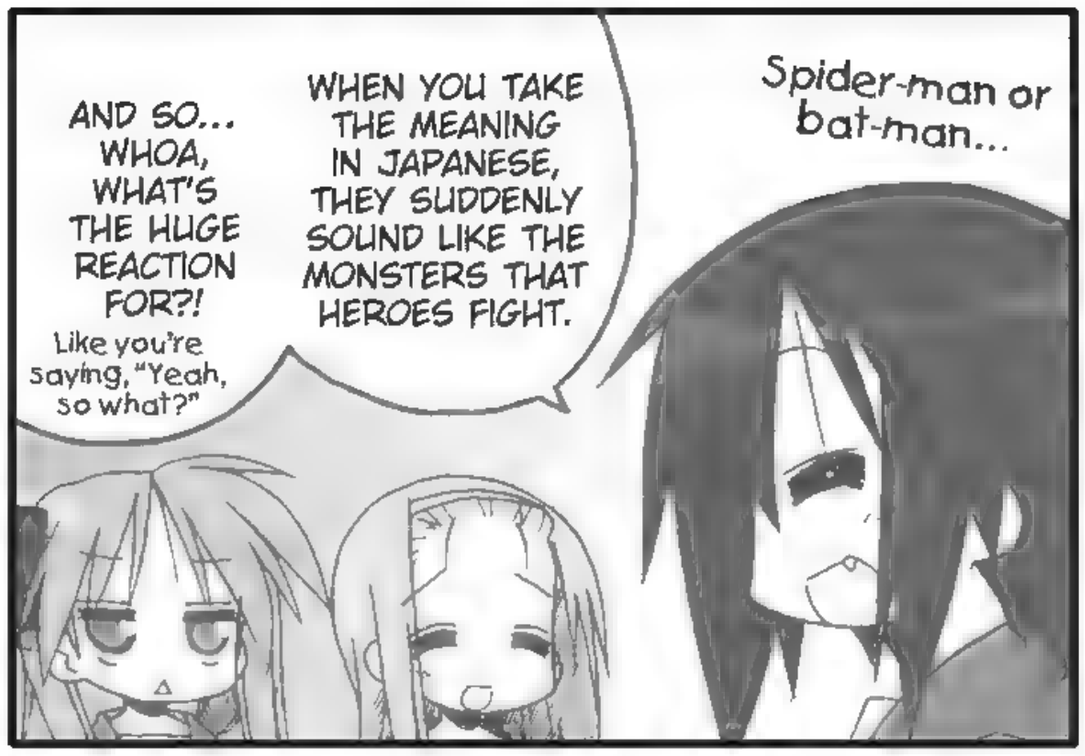
● Comp Ace, January 2008 issue

men



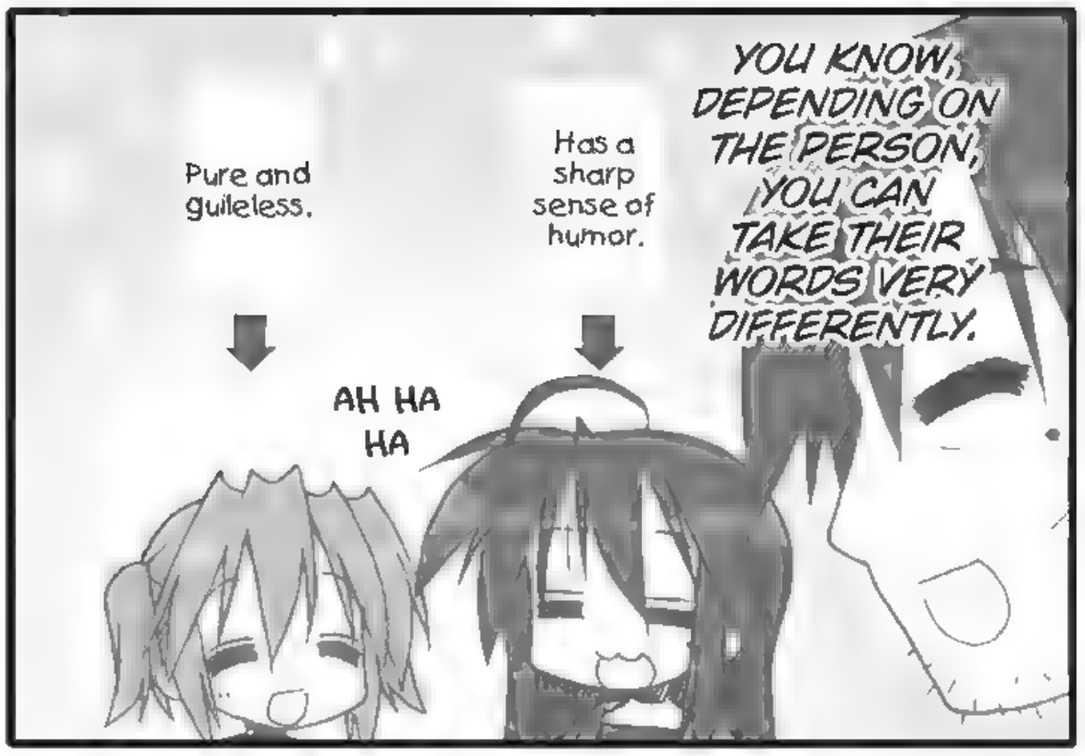


THEY'VE GOT THEIR OWN NAMES, AND THEY'RE HEROES FOR SURE, BUT...
Spider and Bat..
BUT I REALLY WONDER ABOUT THOSE THINGS.
A Japanese hero might be Ultraman, maybe...?

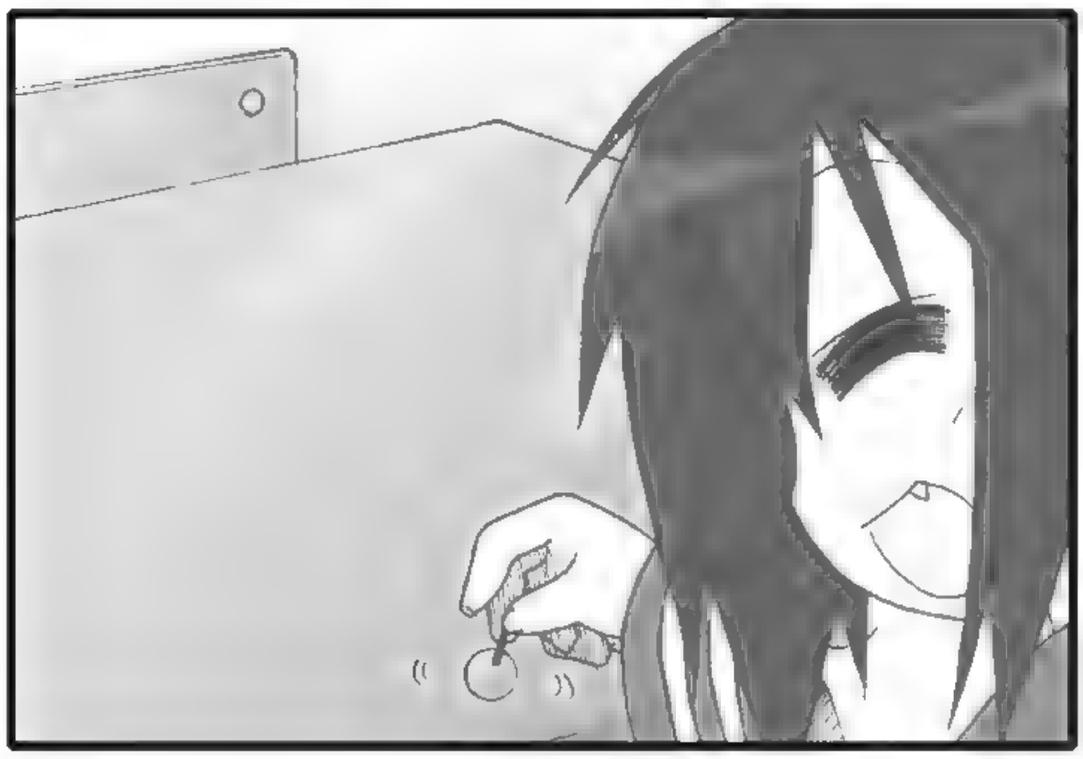

AND SO... WHOA, WHAT'S THE HUGE REACTION FOR?!
Like you're saying, "Yeah, so what?"
WHEN YOU TAKE THE MEANING IN JAPANESE, THEY SUDDENLY SOUND LIKE THE MONSTERS THAT HEROES FIGHT.
Spider-man or bat-man...

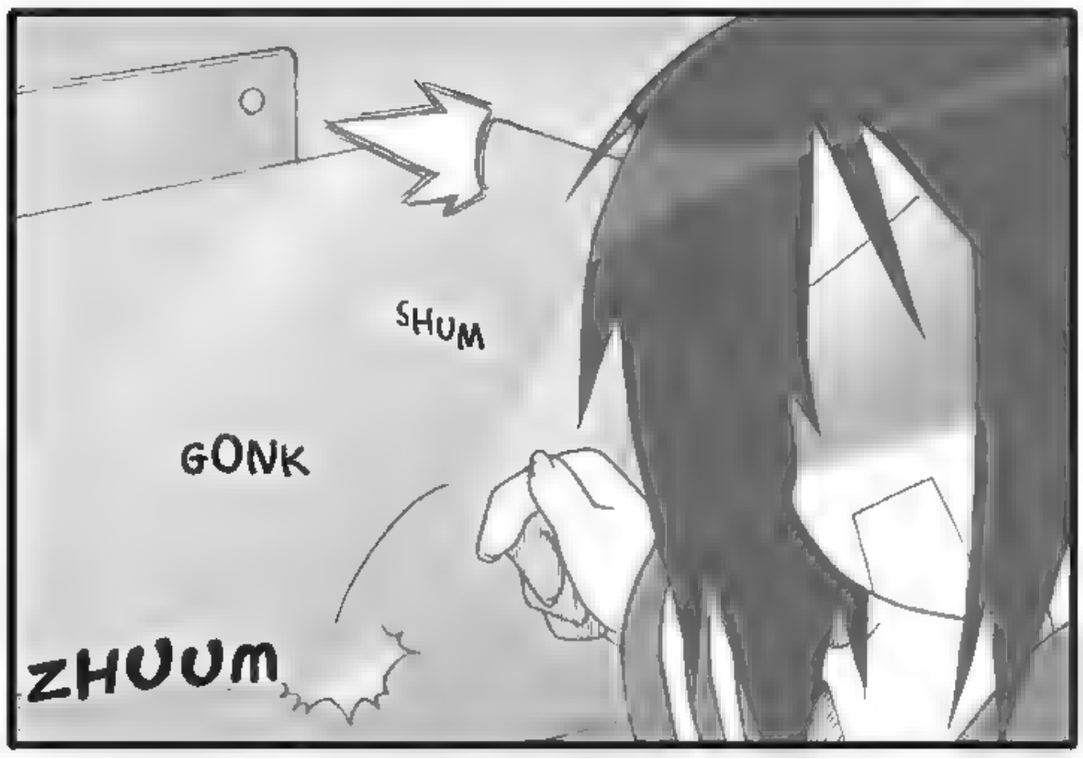
the cozy family

FOR SOME REASON IT FEELS LONGER TODAY THAN NORMAL.
I WAS THINK-ING MAYBE I SHOULD SHAVE MY BEAN-SPROUT-STYLE BEARD.
DAD, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

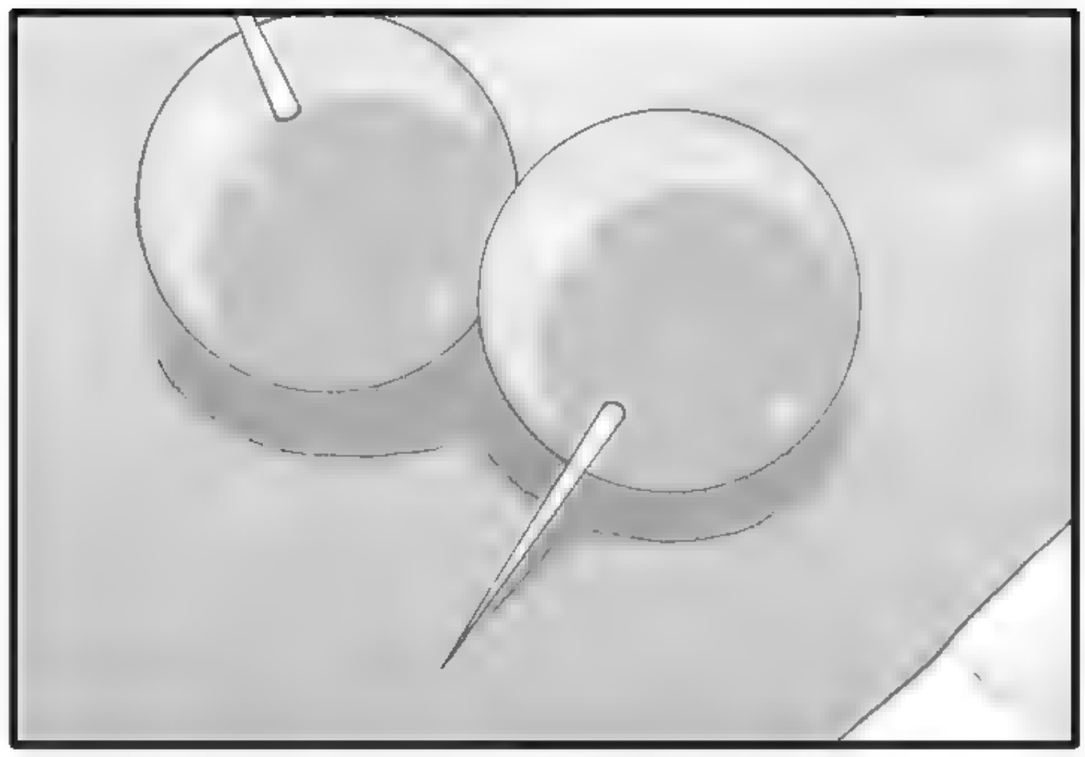

Pure and guileless.
Has a sharp sense of humor.
YOU KNOW, DEPENDING ON THE PERSON, YOU CAN TAKE THEIR WORDS VERY DIFFERENTLY.
AH HA HA

swift speed

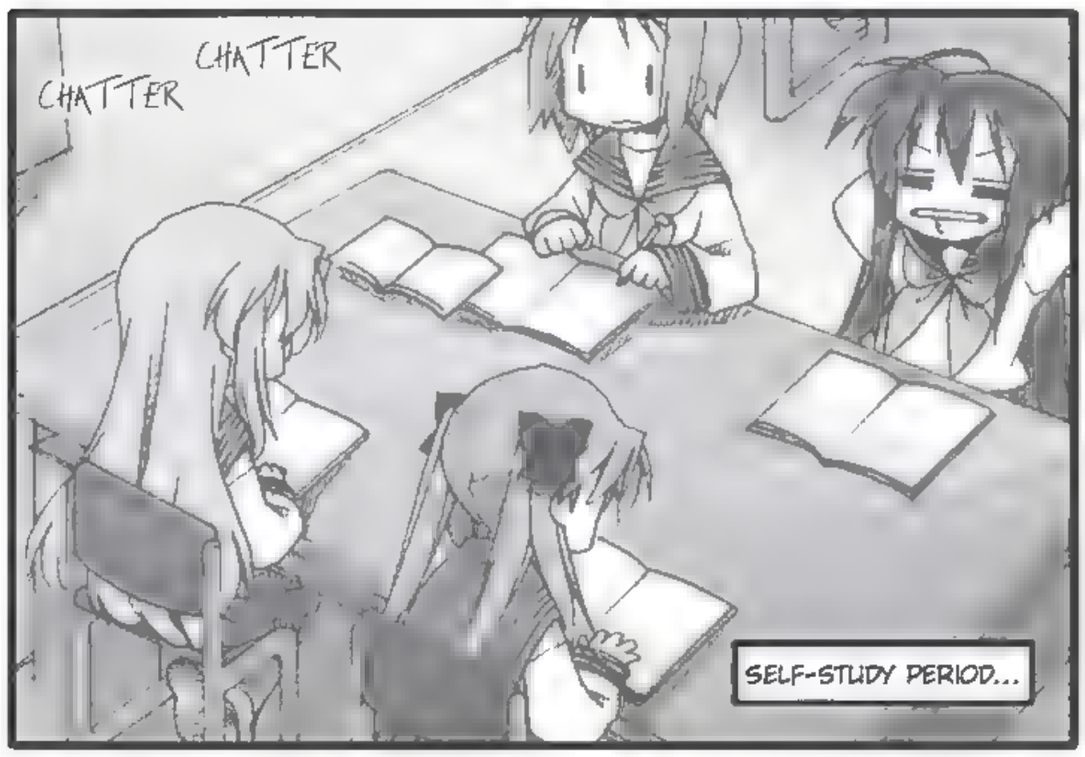


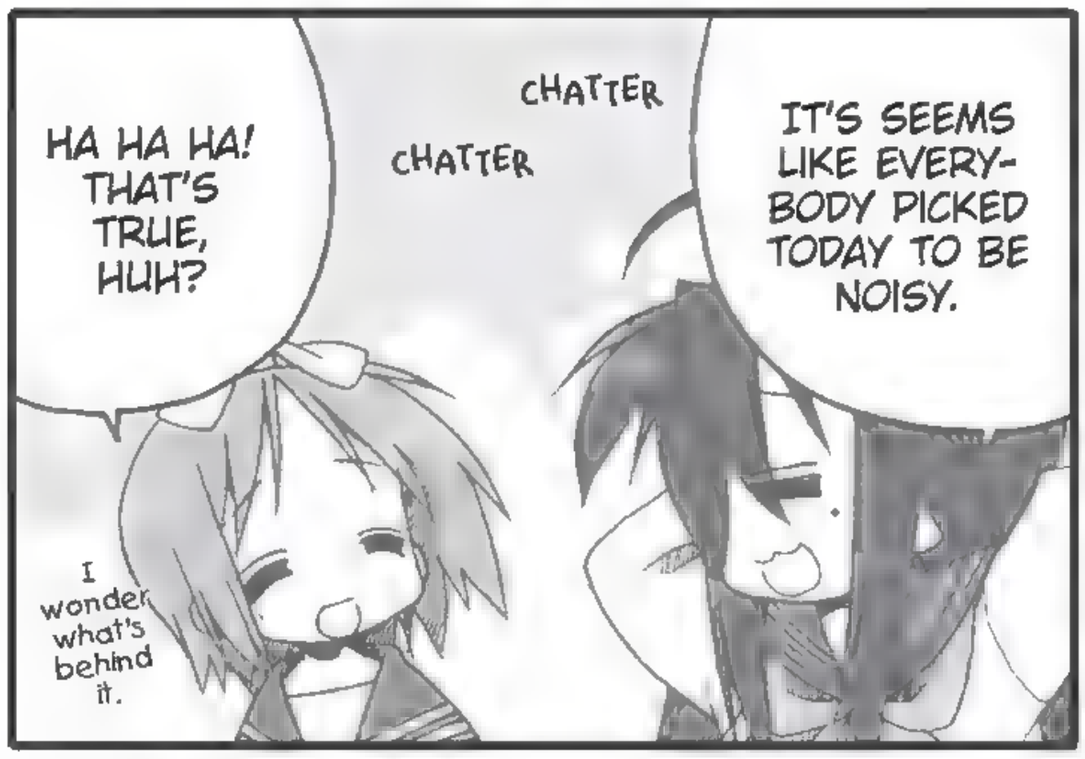


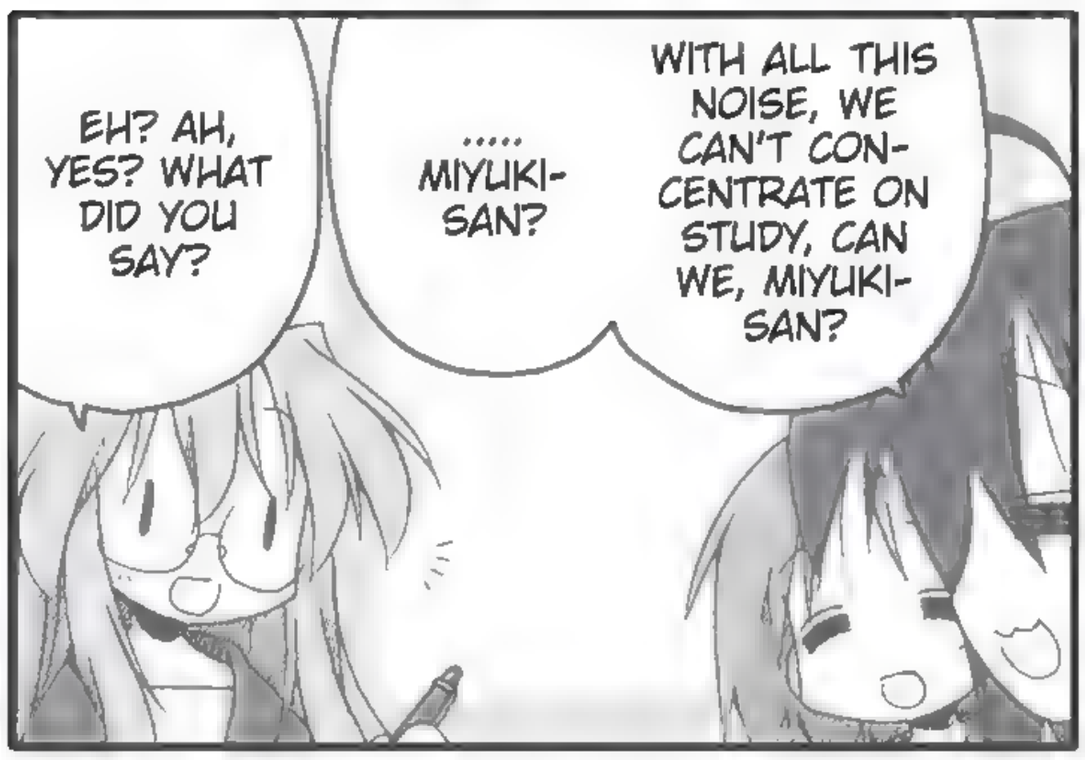
reflection to thought



pin







MAYBE. BUT IT'S PROBABLY MORE LIKE WHEN A PERSON RE-ALLY WANTS TO STUDY, THEY DON'T LET BACKGROUND NOISE AFFECT THEM.
Geez!
I GET IT. MIYUKI IS THE TYPE WHO CAN EVEN CONCENTRATE WHILE LISTENING TO MUSIC, HUH?

Lucky☆Star

episode 175
single-mindedly driving ahead

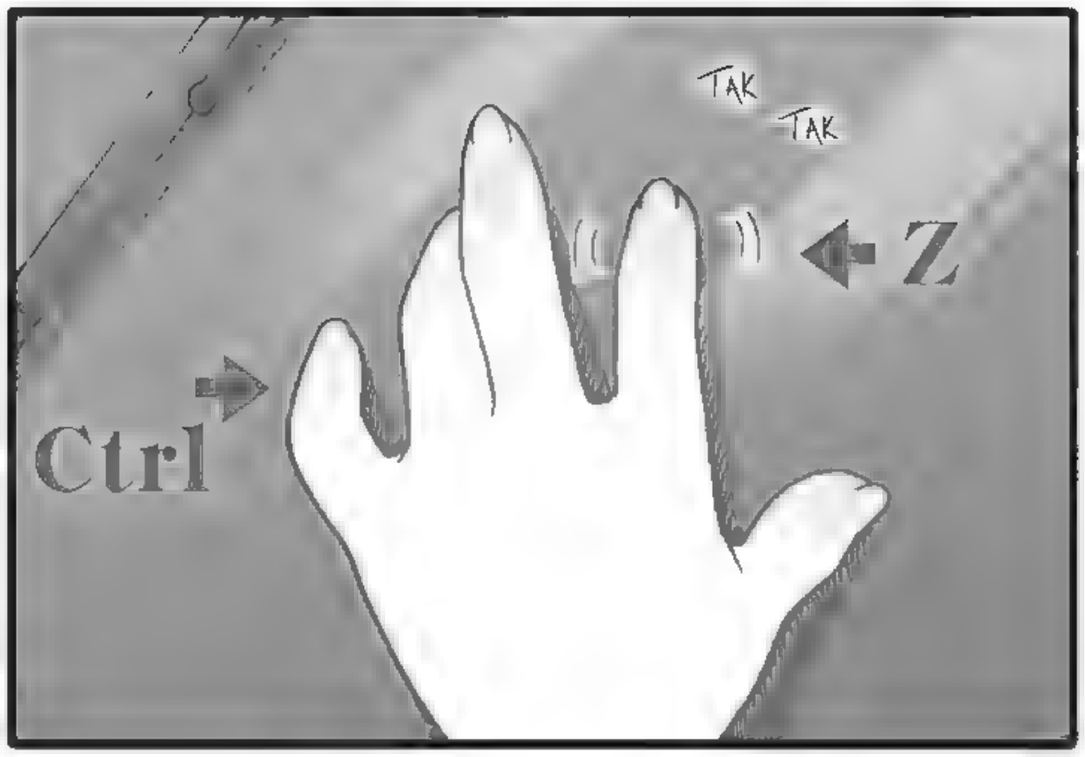
● Comp Ace, February 2008 issue

over and above k.o.

HM? EACH ROUND IS 3 MINUTES, AND FOR A 10-ROUND MATCH, THAT'D BE 30 MINUTES.
For the ones they have on TV.
DAD, HOW LONG DOES A NORMAL BOXING MATCH LAST?

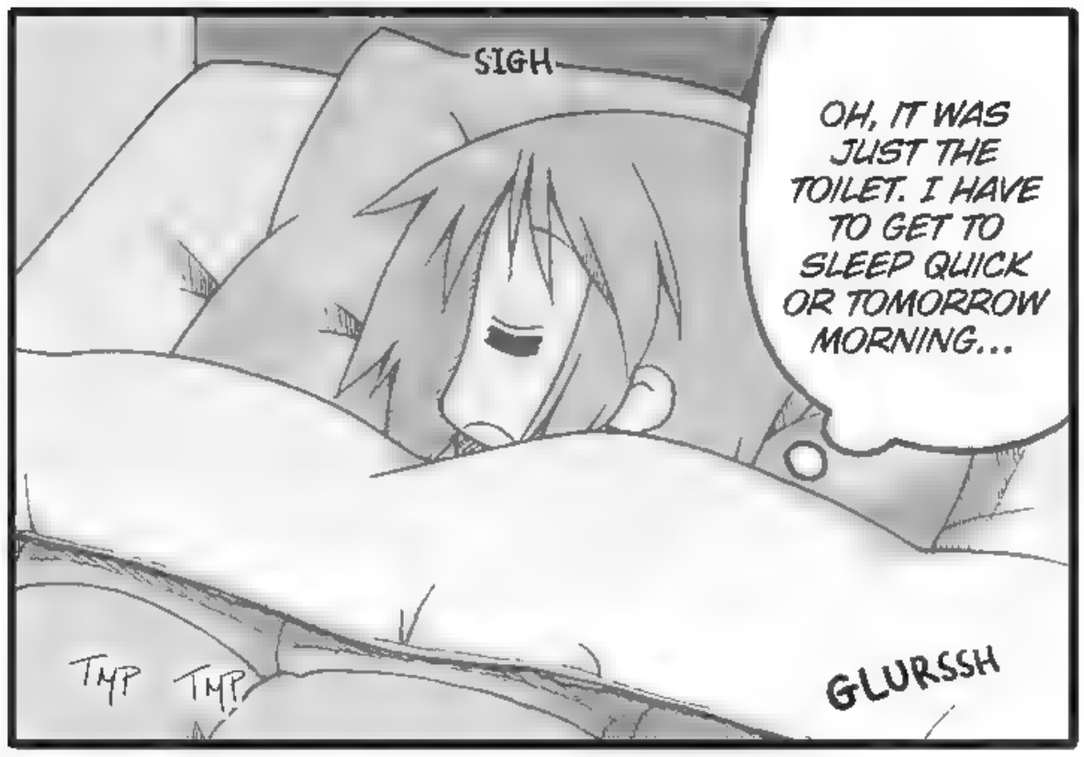
WELL...
I suspect the TV people have things they have to do to bring in the revenue, right?
So why do they set aside, like, three hours for it on TV?
BUT IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN WHY DO THEY ALWAYS SET ASIDE HOURS FOR THE TV BROADCAST?

dependency

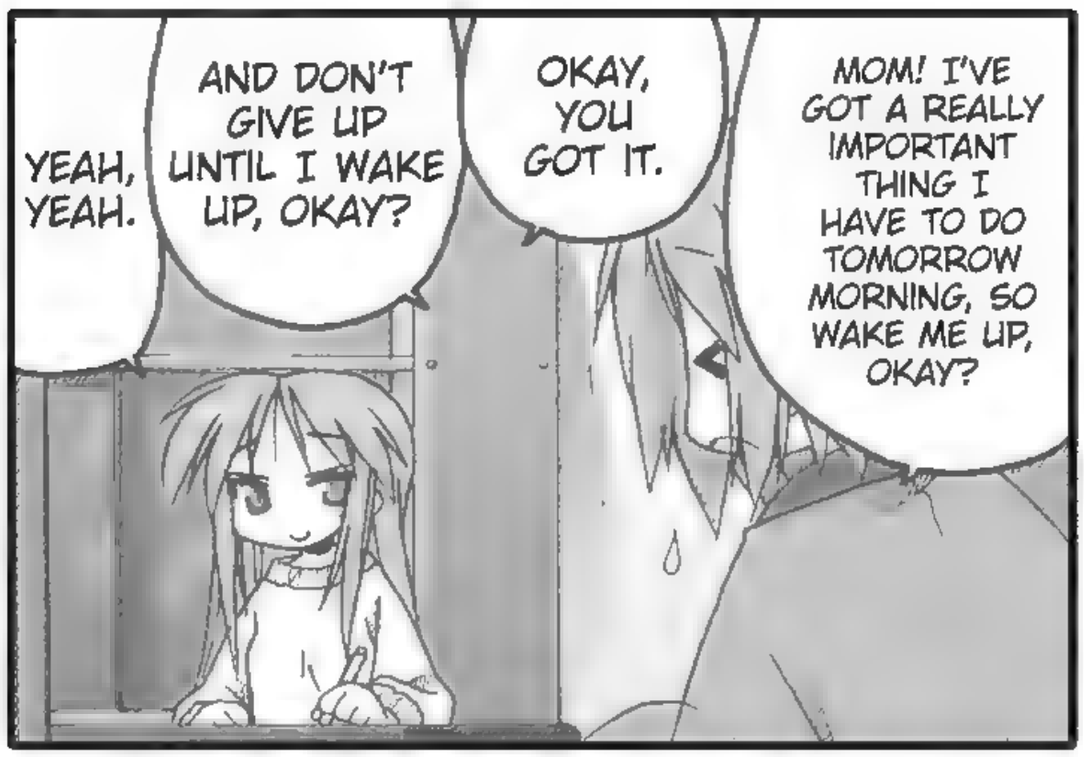


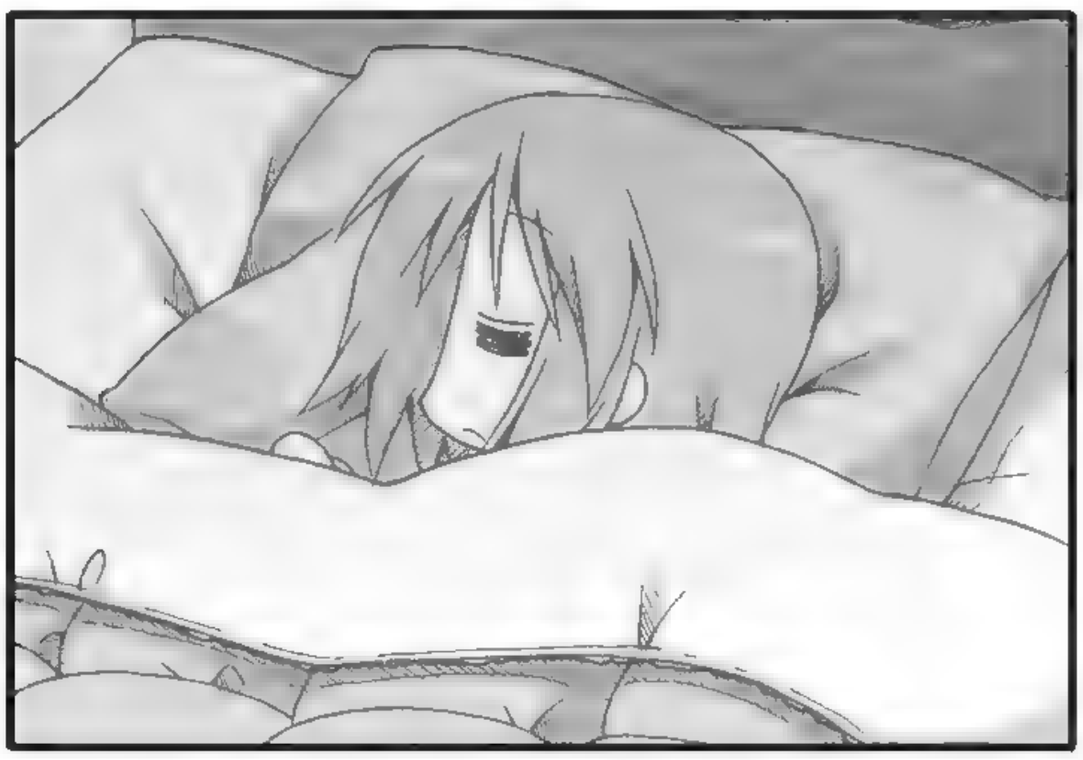
NOTHING. JUST THAT I'VE BEEN CORRUPTED BY THE CONVENIENCE OF MODERN SOCIETY.
I was trying to undo something I drew by hand.
And I knew it was analog.
HIYORIN, WHAT'S WRONG?

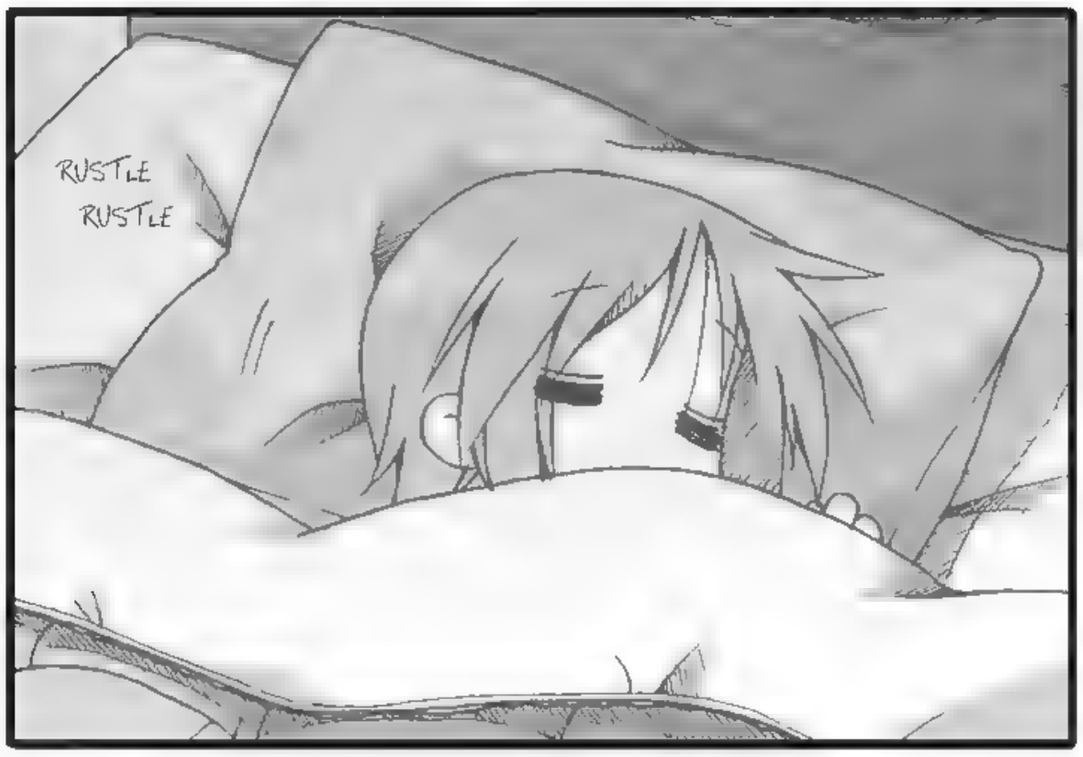
ups and downs

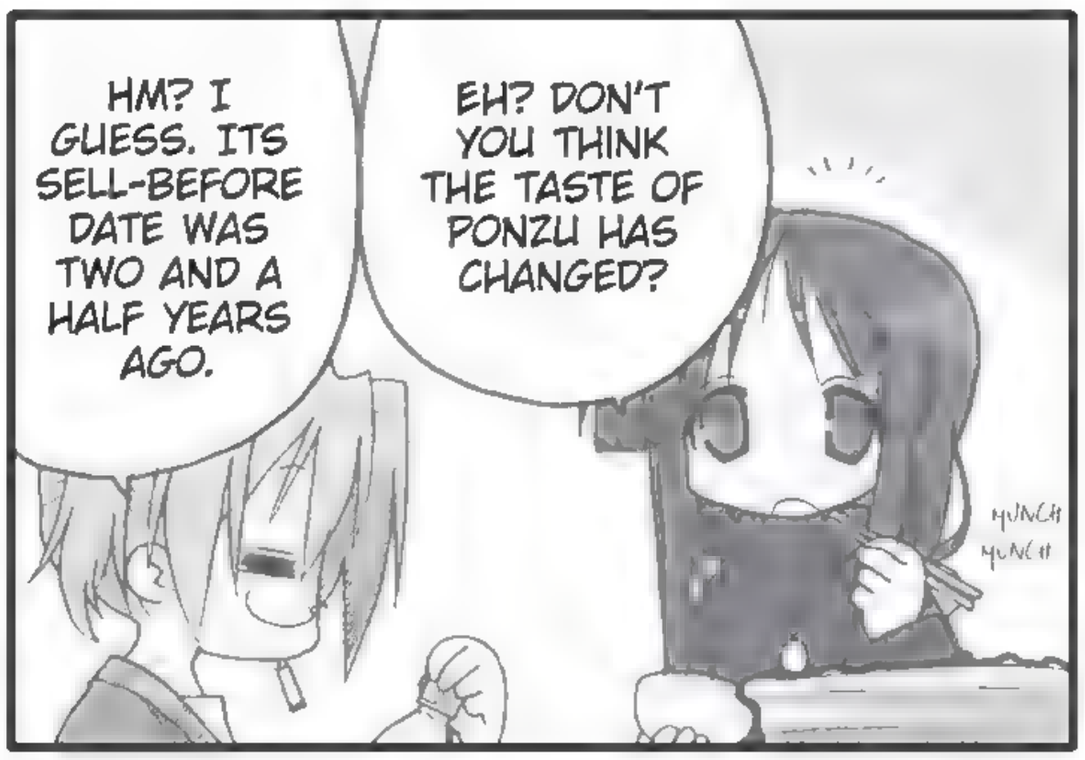


so finally

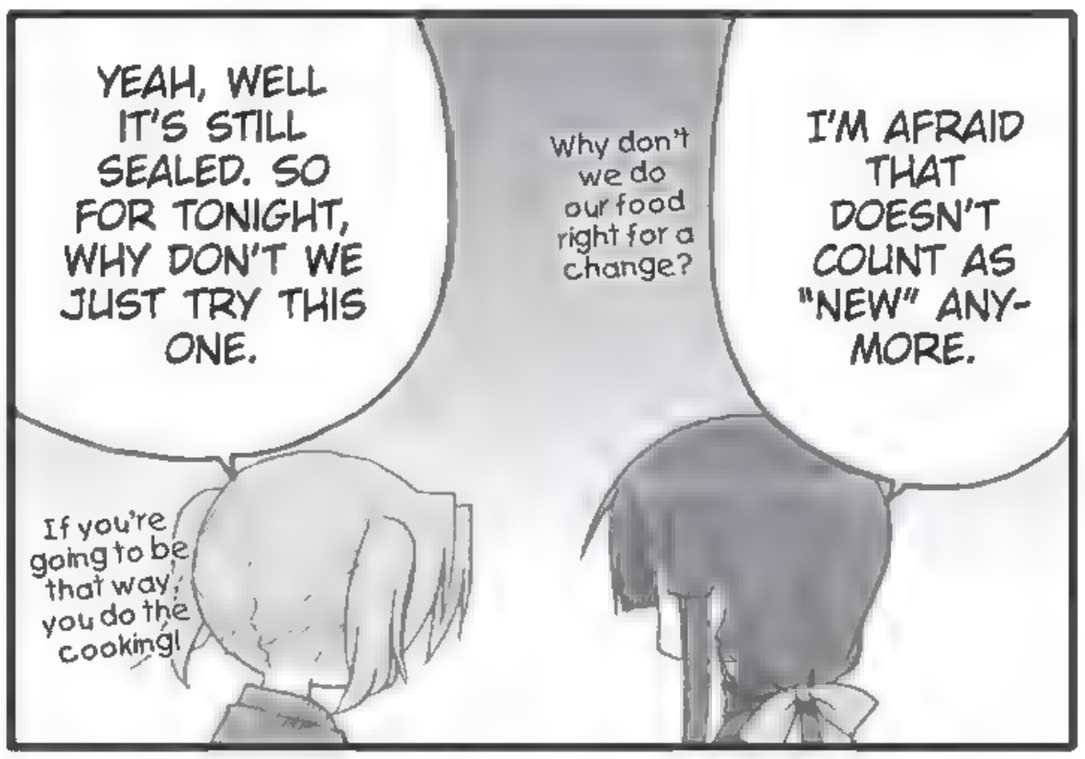

YEAH, YEAH.
AND DON'T GIVE UP UNTIL I WAKE UP, OKAY?
OKAY, YOU GOT IT.
MOM! I'VE GOT A REALLY IMPORTANT THING I HAVE TO DO TOMORROW MORNING, SO WAKE ME UP, OKAY?







HUH? NO, DON'T BOTHER. I SHOULD HAVE A NEW, UN-OPENED BOTTLE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! I'M GOING OUT TO BUY A NEW BOTTLE!
That's way too old for anybody!


YEAH, WELL IT'S STILL SEALED. SO FOR TONIGHT, WHY DON'T WE JUST TRY THIS ONE.
Why don't we do our food right for a change?
I'M AFRAID THAT DOESN'T COUNT AS "NEW" ANY-MORE.
If you're going to be that way, you do the cooking!

Lucky☆Star

episode 176
everybody relaxed

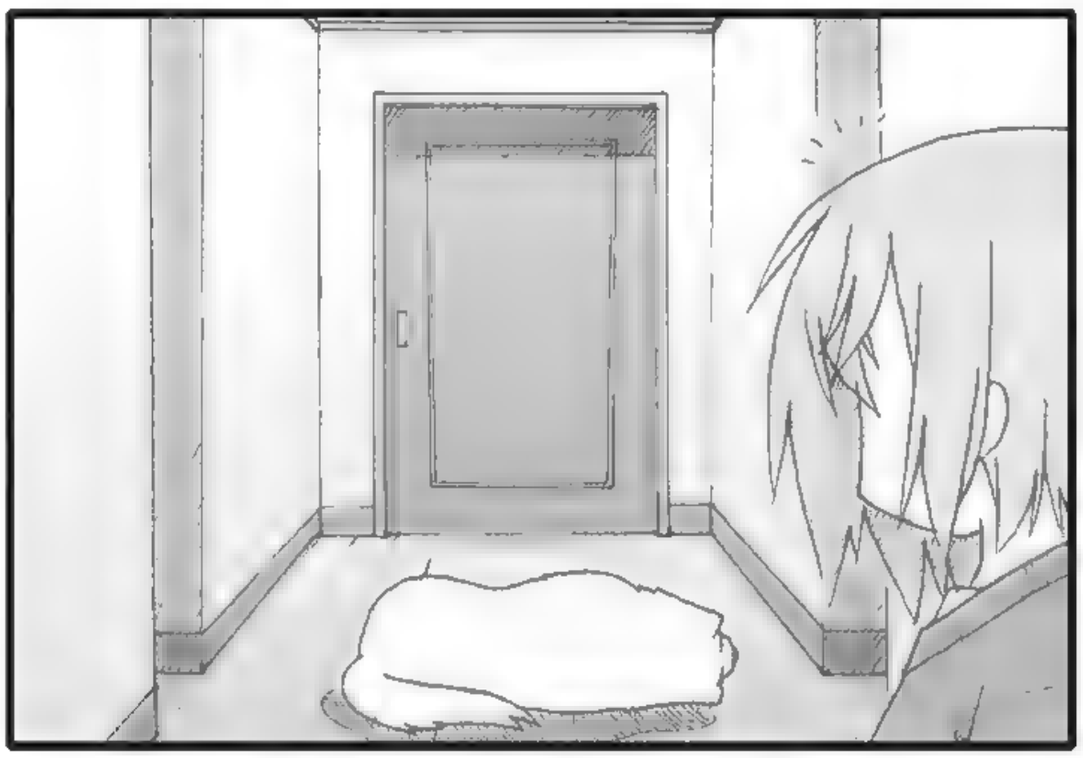
● Comp Ace, March 2008 issue

multi-millionaire

MAYBE IT'S TIME TO GROW UP A LITTLE FROM WHEN YOU WERE A KID.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT EVER SINCE I WAS A KID, IF I ONLY RECEIVED ONE YEN FROM EACH JAPANESE PERSON, I WOULD END UP WITH 120 MILLION YEN!
They'd be willing to give me that much, right?
10 Yen per head would be ¥1,200,000,000!

120 MILLION YEN IS ABOUT 1.2 MILLION DOLLARS

tsundere?



HUSSSS
SSSH
MUNCH MUNCH
I DON'T LIKE IT WHEN YOU COME TO ME, AND I HAVE TO REFUSE... BUT IT'S KIND OF LONELY WHEN YOU DON'T COME AT ALL

our ally

HMM...

THAT'S TRUE, HUH?

RIGHT BEFORE AND AFTER NEW YEARS, IT'S ALL TV SPECIALS, HUH?

FSH

AH HA HA!

BUT WHEN THEY PUT SHOWS ON TV WITH CELEBRITIES AND POLITICIANS THAT I'VE NEVER HEARD OF, IT'S NO FUN AT ALL, HUH?

TH-THAT'S RIGHT, HUH?

They're both famous for being into manga, right?

OH, BUT I KNOW SHOKOTAN AND TARO ASO...

i know, but...

TSUKASA, IF YOU'RE SLEEPY, THEN GO TO BED!

OKAAAY...

MMBL

MMBL

SLEEPING UNDER THE KOTATSU IS BAD FOR YOUR HEALTH!

IF YOU SLEEP UNDER THE KOTATSU, YOU'LL CATCH COLD!

RIGHT... I WILL...

I GUESS I SHOULD GO TO MY ROOM...

RUSTLE

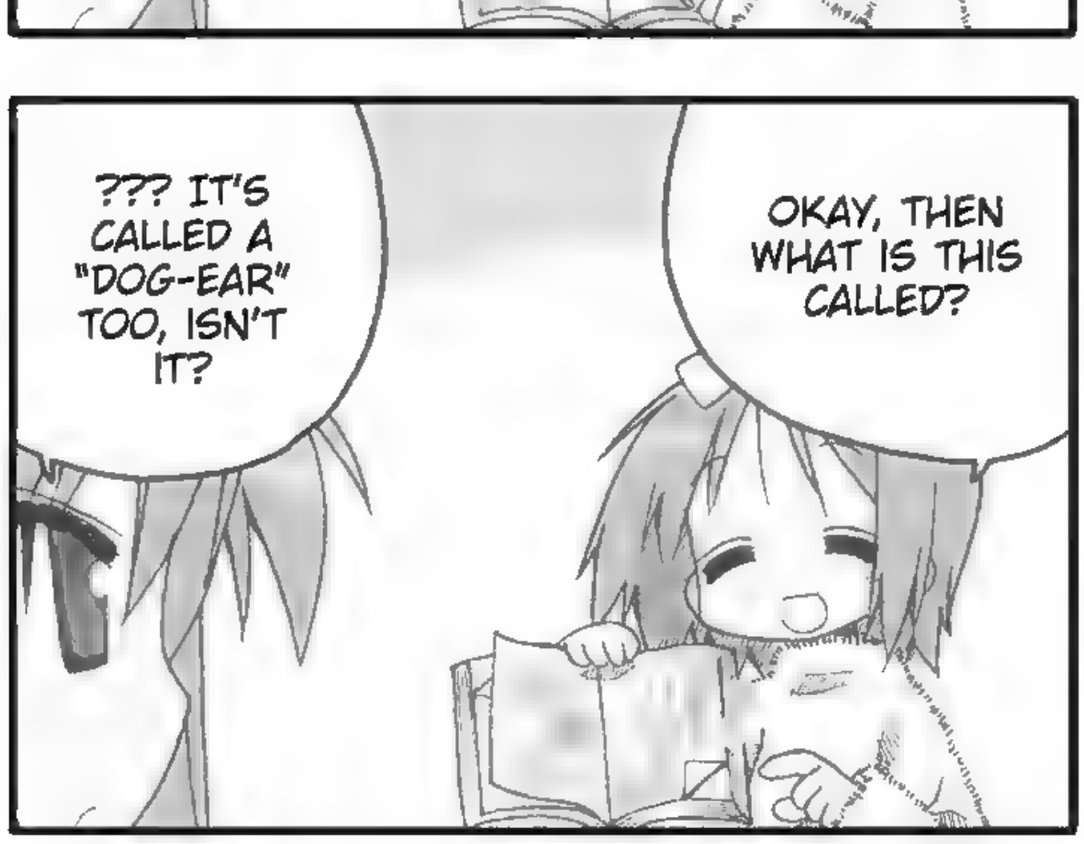
YAAWN

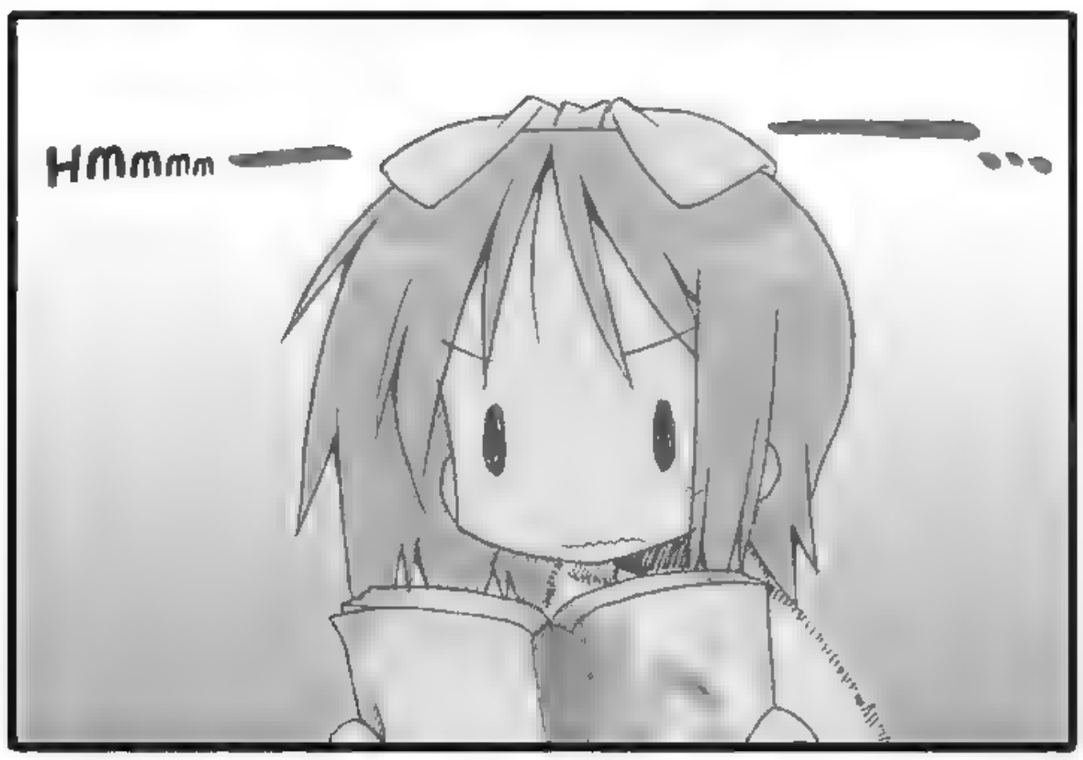
SCHNORE

SCHNORE

WHAT IS...

Everybody's sleeping here?!



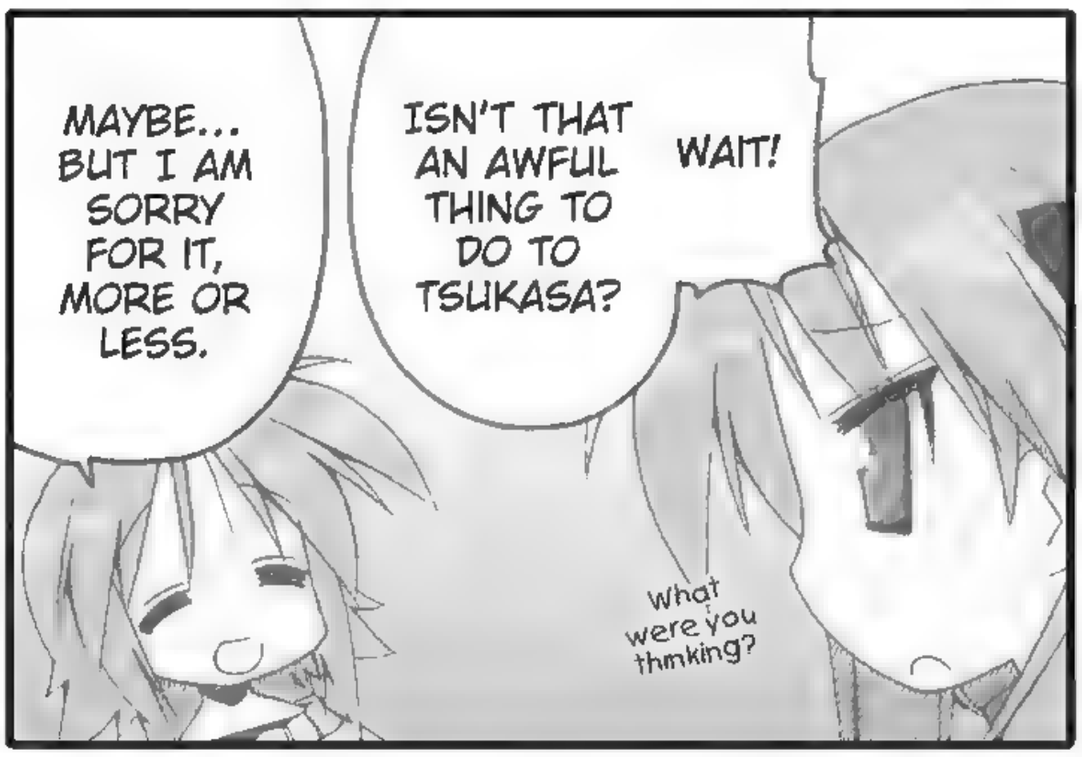


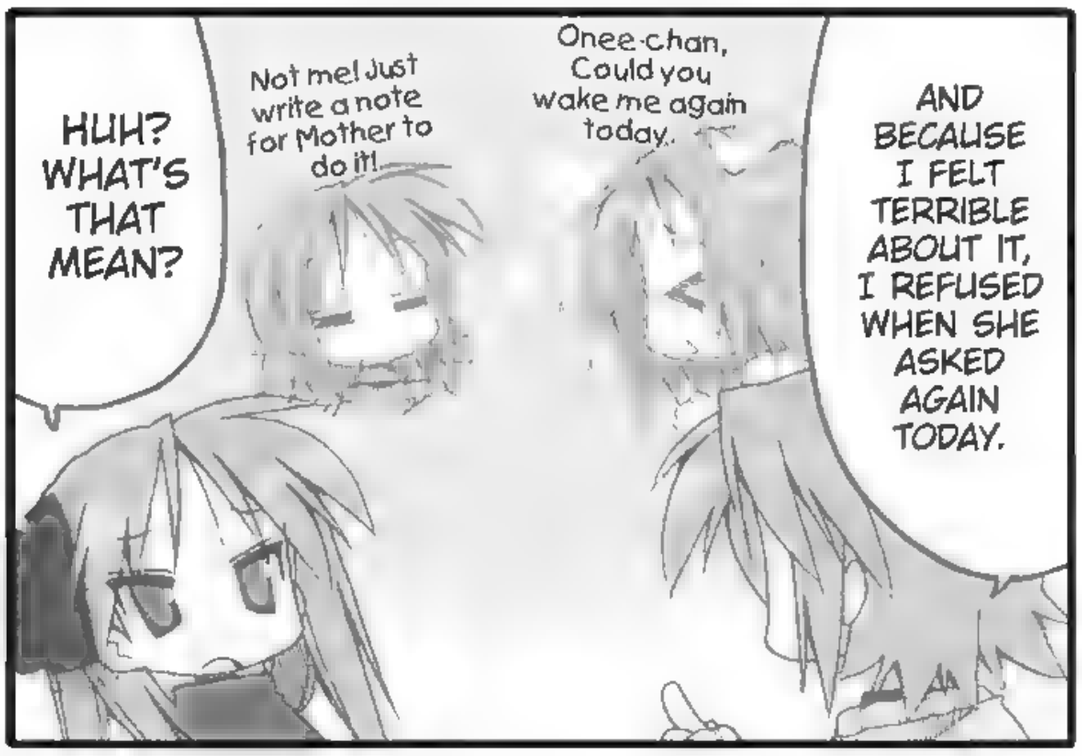
Lucky☆Star

episode 177
best left unknown

● Comp Ace, April 2008 issue

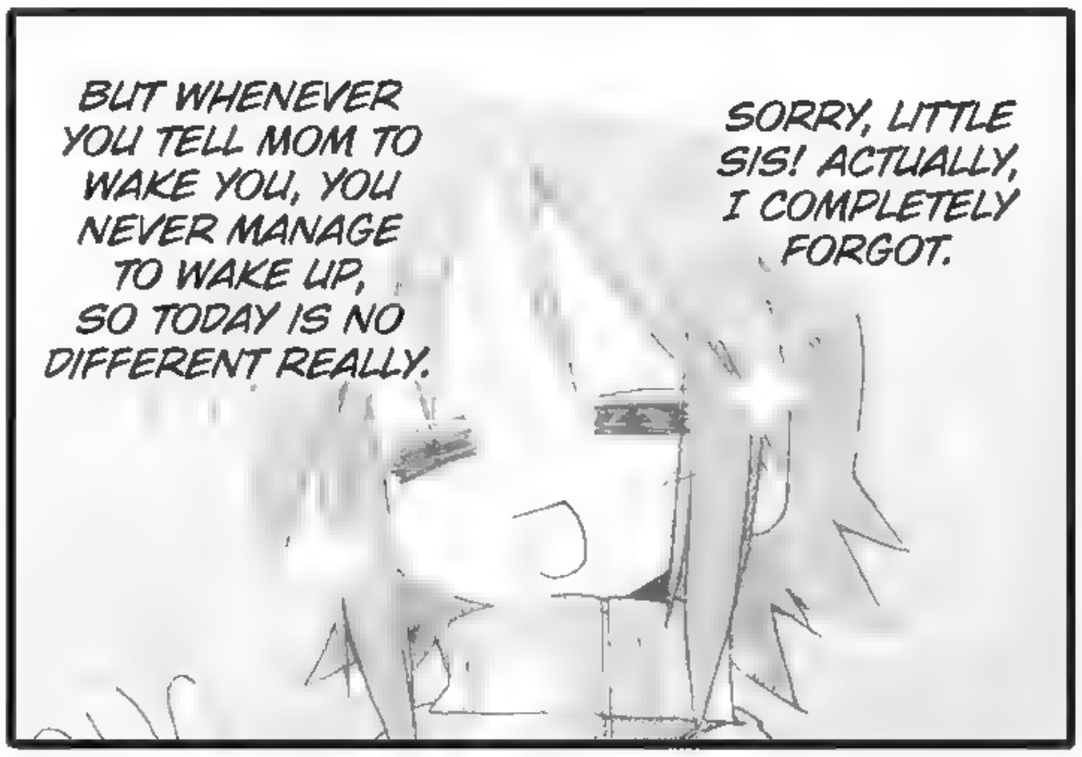
vigilant




HUH? WHAT'S THAT MEAN?
Not me! Just write a note for Mother to do it!
Onee-chan, Could you wake me again today.
AND BECAUSE I FELT TERRIBLE ABOUT IT, I REFUSED WHEN SHE ASKED AGAIN TODAY.

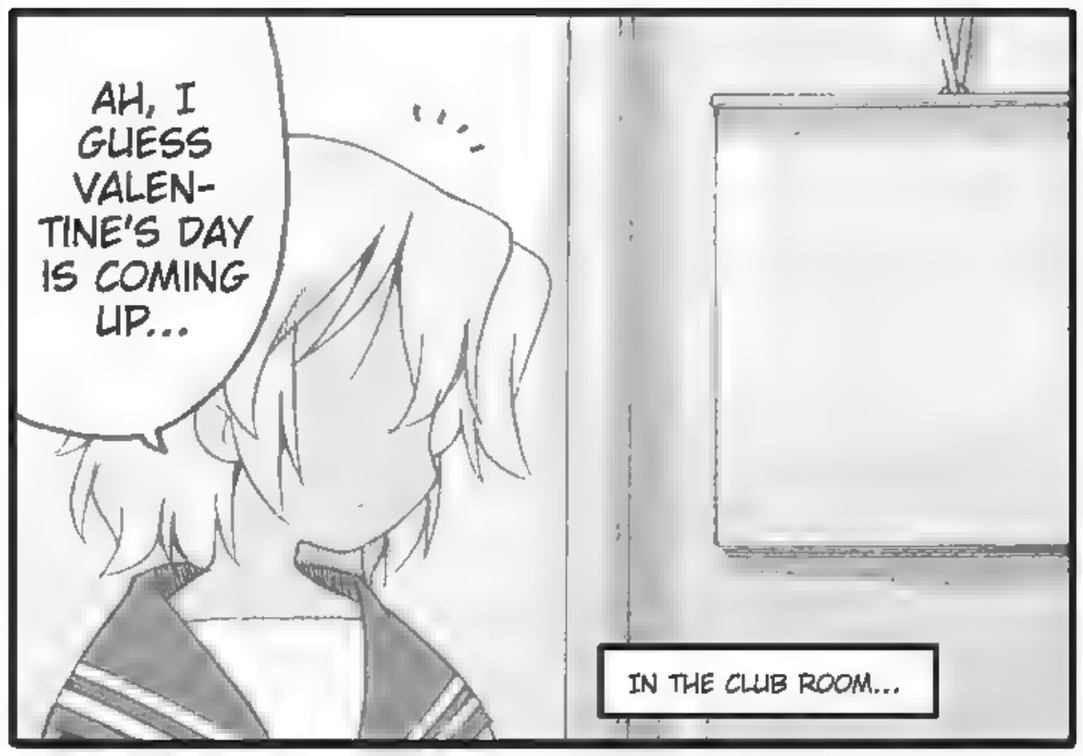
Is avoiding your problems all you do?!
NO. IF YOU REALLY FEEL BAD ABOUT IT, YOU SHOULD ACTUALLY TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND WAKE HER UP!
BUT IT'D BE AWFUL IF I FORGOT AGAIN, RIGHT?

absolute truth


BUT WHENEVER YOU TELL MOM TO WAKE YOU, YOU NEVER MANAGE TO WAKE UP, SO TODAY IS NO DIFFERENT REALLY.
SORRY, LITTLE SIS! ACTUALLY, I COMPLETELY FORGOT.

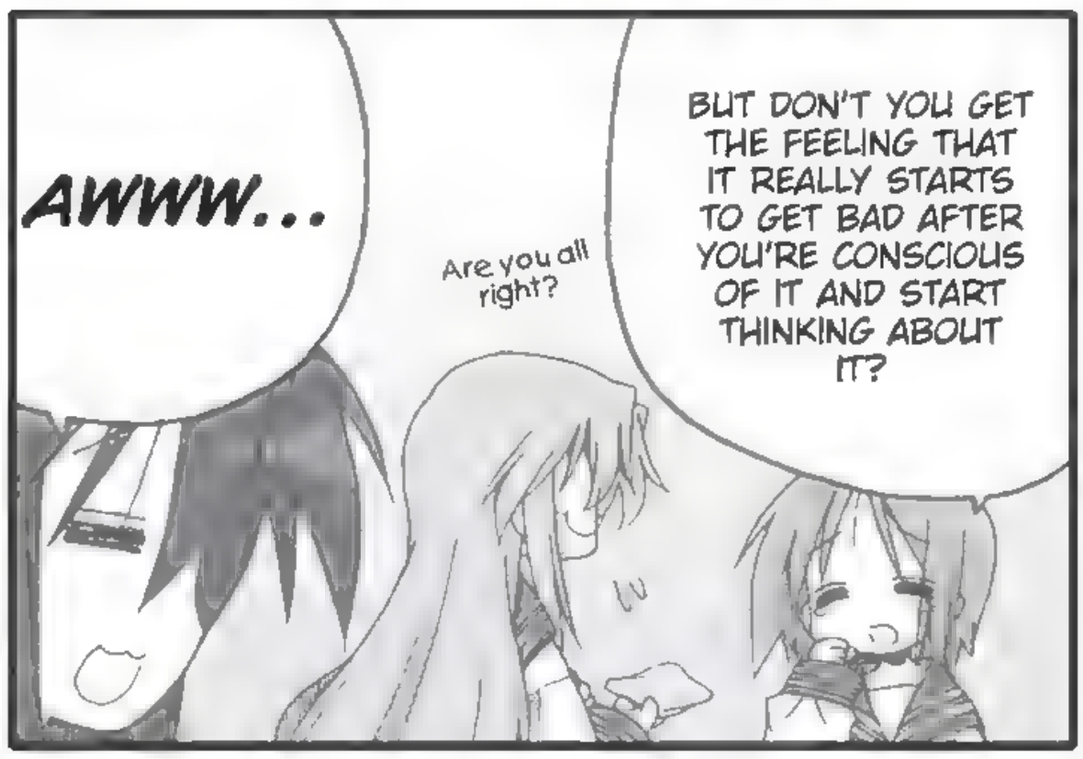
the real thing

knowledge



conditions before making a move

WELL, IT ISN'T SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN AVOID BY FORGETTING, YOU KNOW...
AND HERE I FINALLY FORGOT, AND YOU MADE ME REMEMBER!
Come to think of it, my eyes do feel a little itchy...

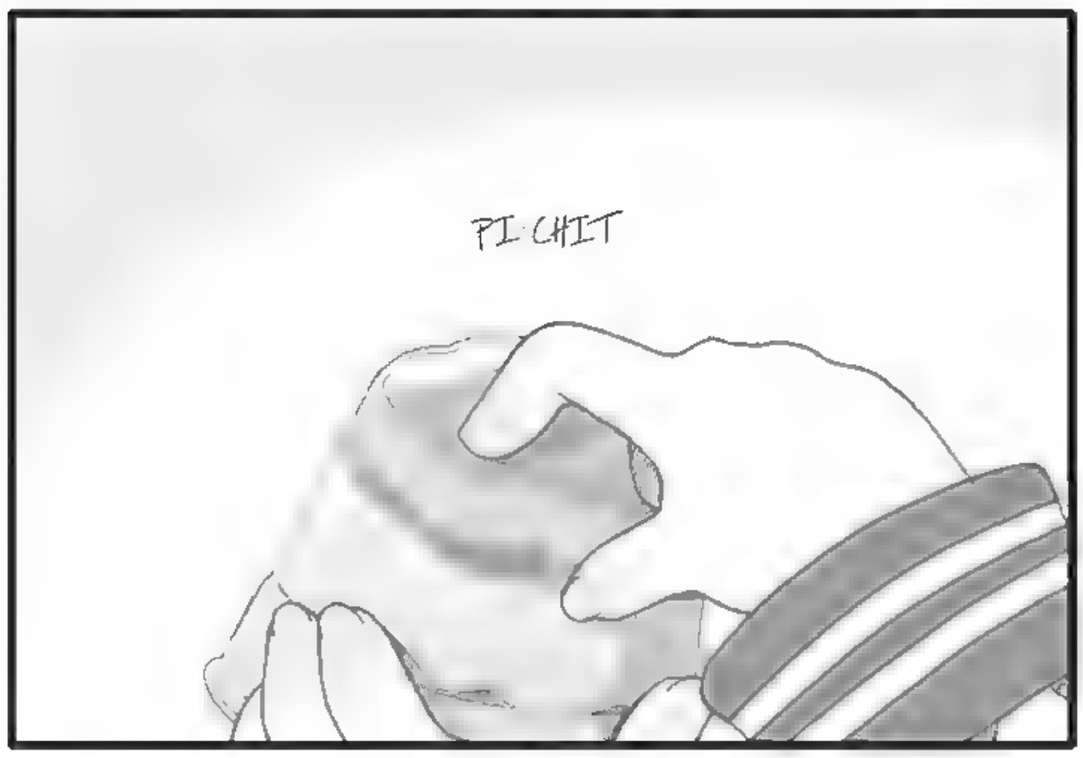

AWWW...
Are you all right?
BUT DON'T YOU GET THE FEELING THAT IT REALLY STARTS TO GET BAD AFTER YOU'RE CONSCIOUS OF IT AND START THINKING ABOUT IT?

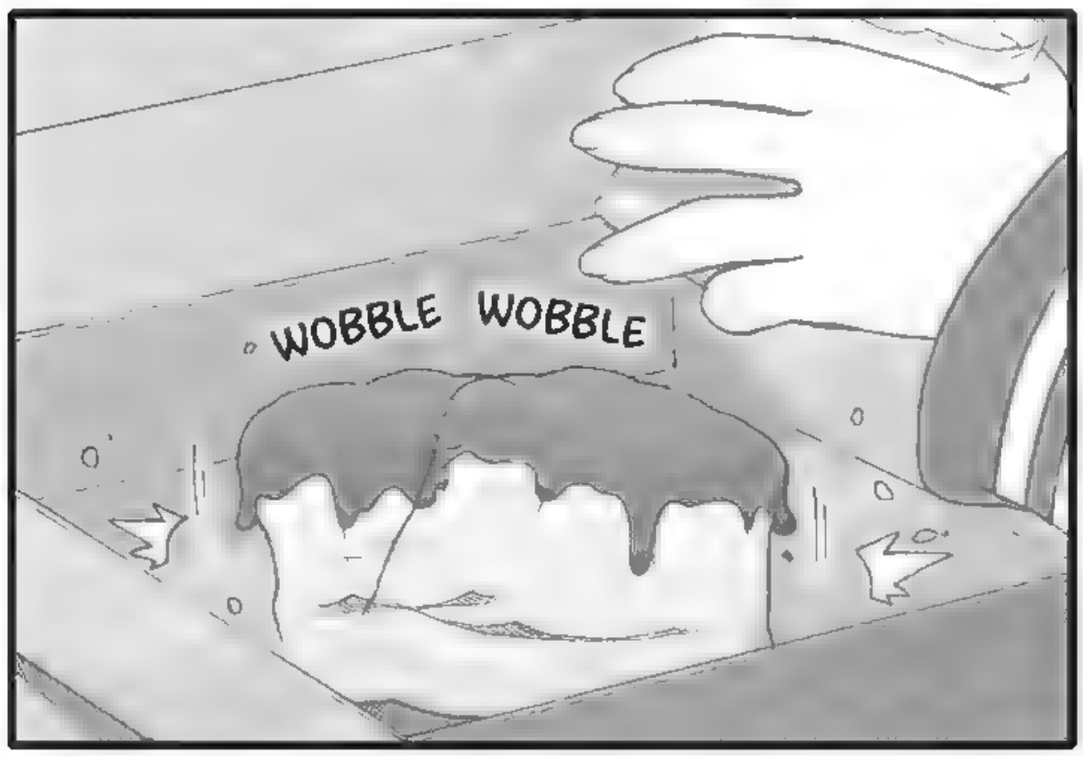
Lucky☆Star

episode 178
switch

● Comp Ace, May 2008 issue

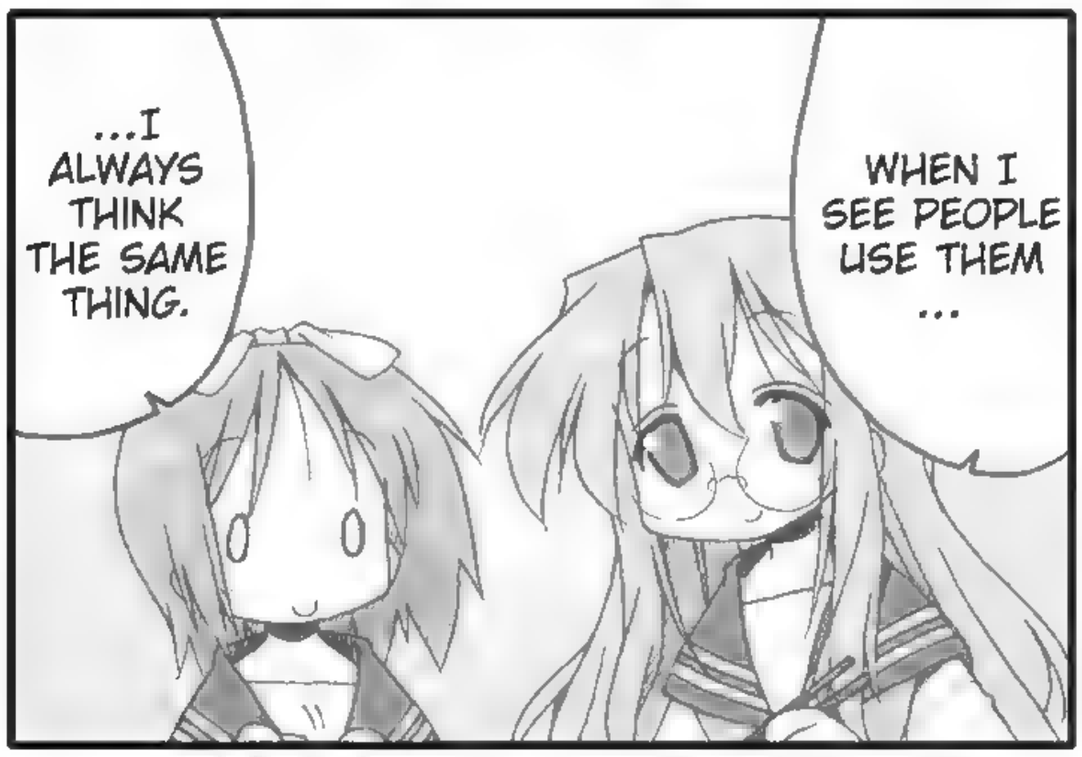
an added action we call happiness





IT'S TOO MUCH OF A PAIN FOR ME, SO I EAT IT RIGHT FROM THE CONTAINER.
I KEEP ON WONDERING... WHEN YOU TAKE PUDDING OUT OF ITS CONTAINER, WHY DOES IT LOOK SO DELICIOUS?!
Look at this!
Good for you.

just-coined word



US NORMAL PEOPLE JUST WANT TO SAY, "SPEAK PLAIN JAPANESE, WILL YA?!"
We don't understand any of them!
BUT USING THEM IN NORMAL CONVERSATION, WHAT MEANING YOU TAKE FROM THEM OFTEN DEPENDS ON WHO YOU ARE. A CONVERSATION COULD GO ALL WRONG
Even gamers can mistake a gamer PK for a sports PK.

our ally

...TRY TO USE HASTILY-LEARNED JAPANESE PHRASES IN ORDER TO DO BUSINESS WITH JAPAN. THEY THOUGHT IT WAS PROPER JAPANESE.

IT HAPPENS IN THE NOVELS TOO. THE REASON SEEMS TO LIE LONG AGO, THE CHINESE PEOPLE WOULD...

CHATTER

CHATTER

Takara-chan, why do you know those things?

I just happened to read it somewhere.

Wow! Girls with glasses are really smart!

I wonder if this is something everybody would want to know? Maybe that is what they'll ask next.

RUSH

RUSH

STUDYING...

THINKING ABOUT IT THAT WAY, I JUST LOVE MIYUKI-SAN TO PIECES!

the emerging question

SIGH

WHEN I THINK WE'RE ACTUALLY GOING INTO ENTRANCE EXAM SEASON, I GET DEPRESSED.

I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL, BUT WHEN YOU GET STUCK, IT'S BEST TO JUST SKIP IT, RIGHT?

...THERE WAS THIS ONE QUESTION THAT I KEPT THINKING OVER, AND I HAD TROUBLE MOVING ON.

SPEAKING OF EXAMS, ON THE TEST WE HAD RECENTLY...

I couldn't stop thinking about it.

AH... I REMEMBER THAT.

IT WAS IN ENGLISH, AND IT WAS AN EXAMPLE SENTENCE ABOUT THIS CHINESE PERSON...

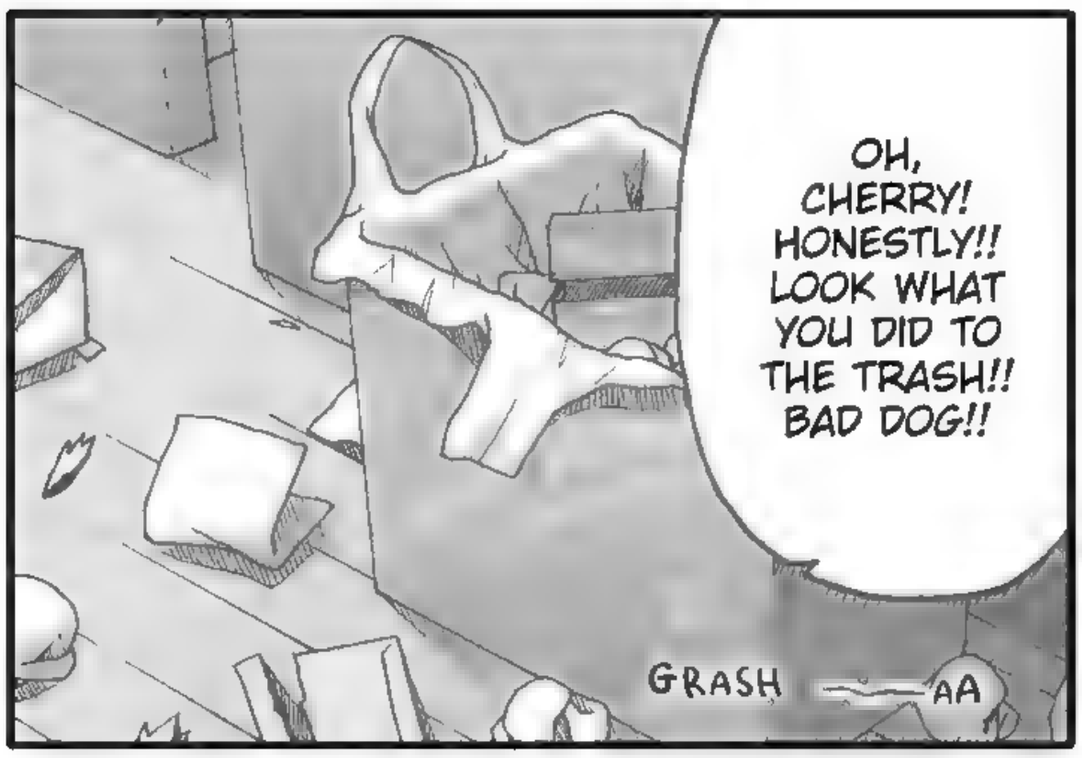
...BUT ODDS ARE YOUR HEAD SHOULD BE WORKING ON SOMETHING ELSE DURING A TEST.

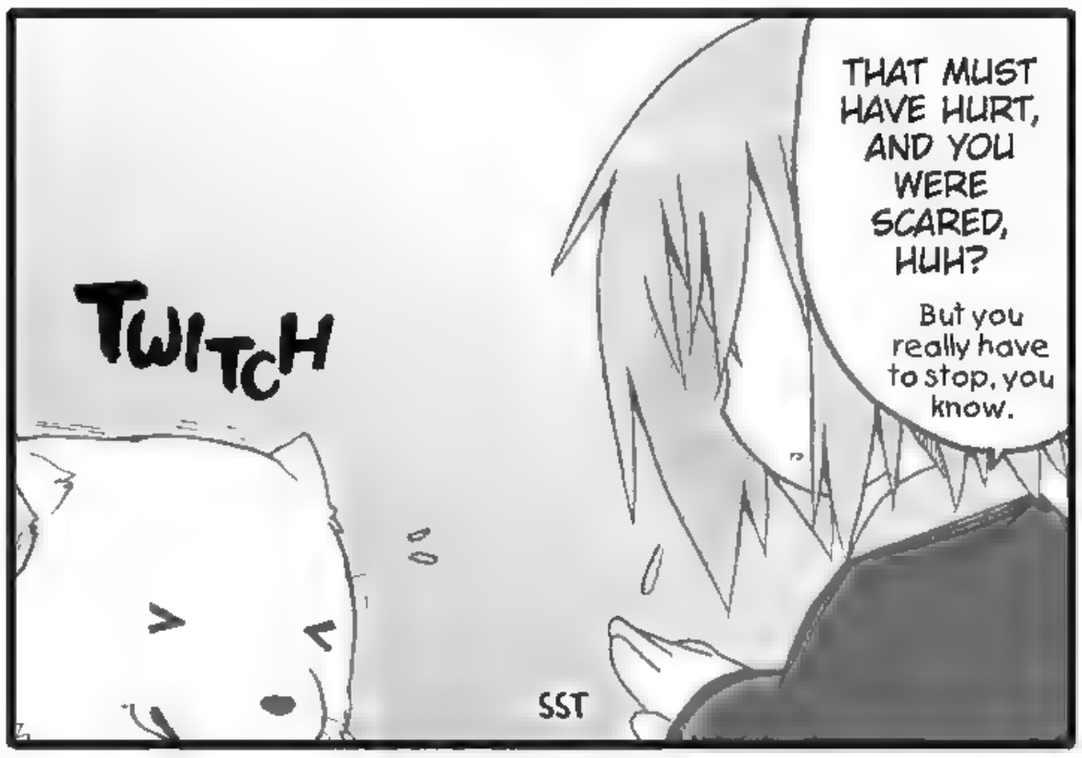
I KNOW IT'S A THOUGHT-PROVOKING TOPIC...

I KEPT WONDERING... WHEN CHINESE PEOPLE ARE IN MANGA, WHY DO THEY ALWAYS END THEIR SENTENCES WITH "ARU"?

Yeah, I don't know either.

hand





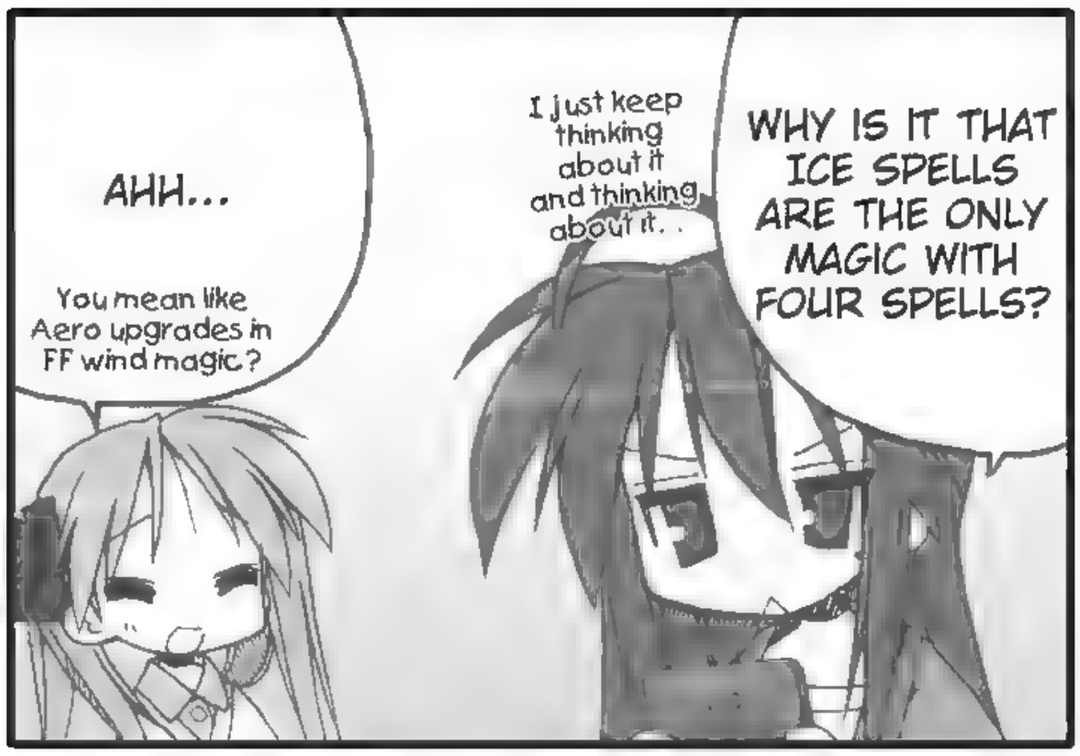
GONN nG
Since I never spank you, I feel a little sad when you react like that.
I WAS JUST GOING TO PET YOU A LITTLE...
N-NO...
TWITCH TWITCH

Lucky☆Star

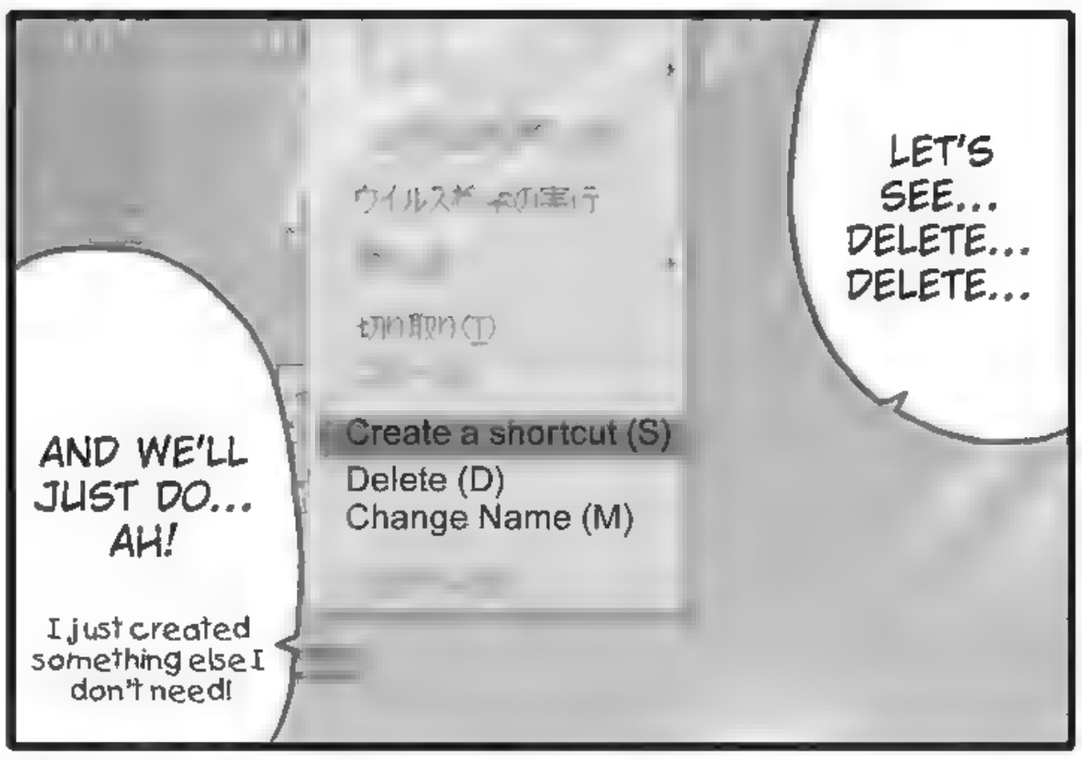
episode 179 another peaceful day

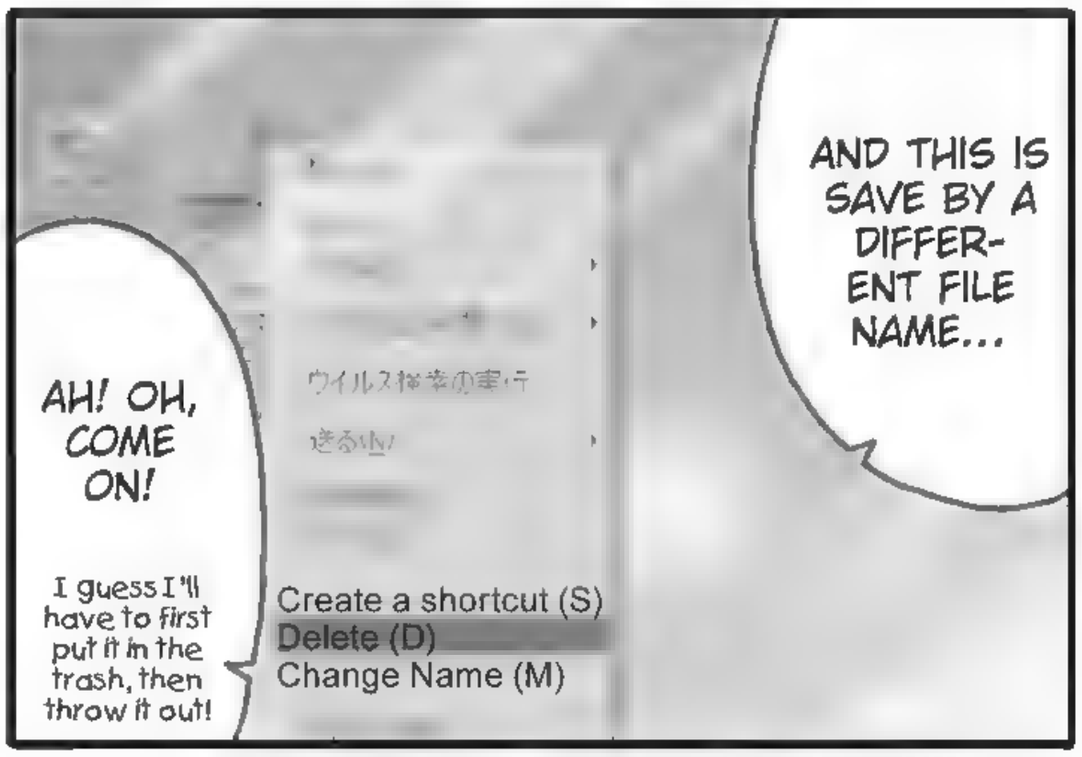
● Comp Ace, June 2008 issue

nonconformist


AHH...
You mean like Aero upgrades in FF wind magic?
I just keep thinking about it and thinking about it...
WHY IS IT THAT ICE SPELLS ARE THE ONLY MAGIC WITH FOUR SPELLS?

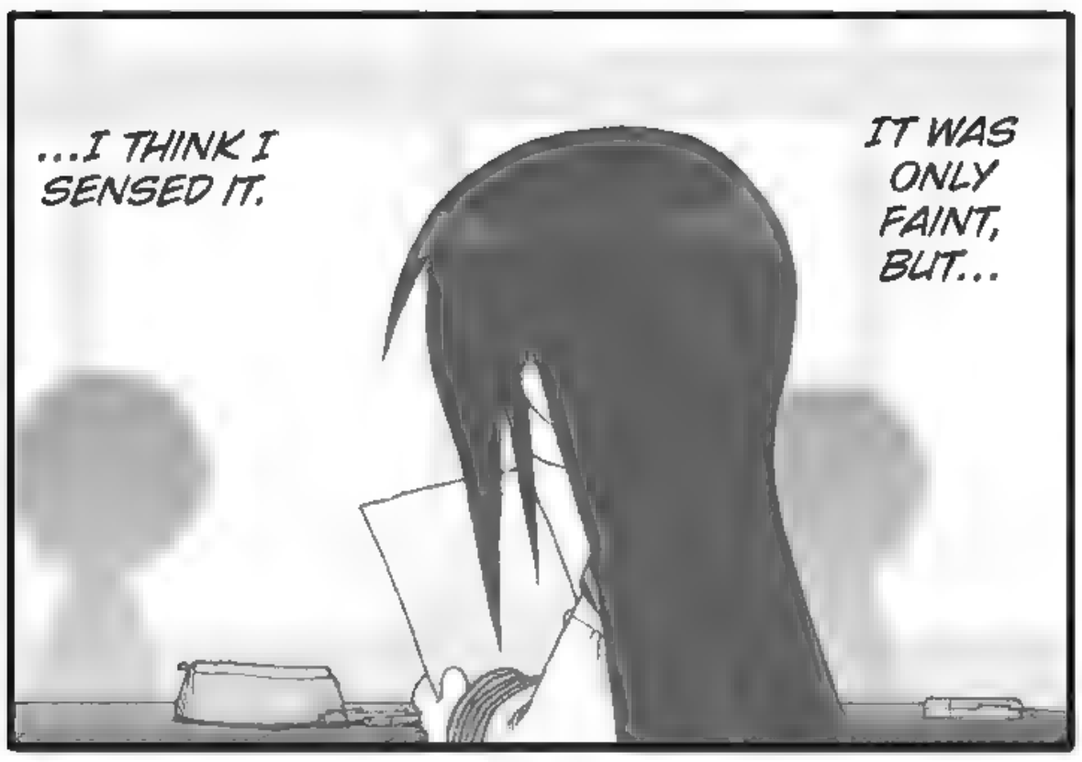
wild thing


LET'S SEE... DELETE... DELETE...
Create a shortcut (S)
Delete (D)
Change Name (M)
AND WE'LL JUST DO... AH!
I just created something else I don't need!


AND THIS IS SAVE BY A DIFFER-ENT FILE NAME...
AH! OH, COME ON!
I guess I'll have to first put it in the trash, then throw it out!
Create a shortcut (S)
Delete (D)
Change Name (M)

I NEVER SEEMED TO DO IT RIGHT, AND NOW I'M REALLY ANNOYED!
WELL, THE FIRST THING TO DO IS CALM DOWN.
Why were you rushing through that anyway?

Hmm
Mmm

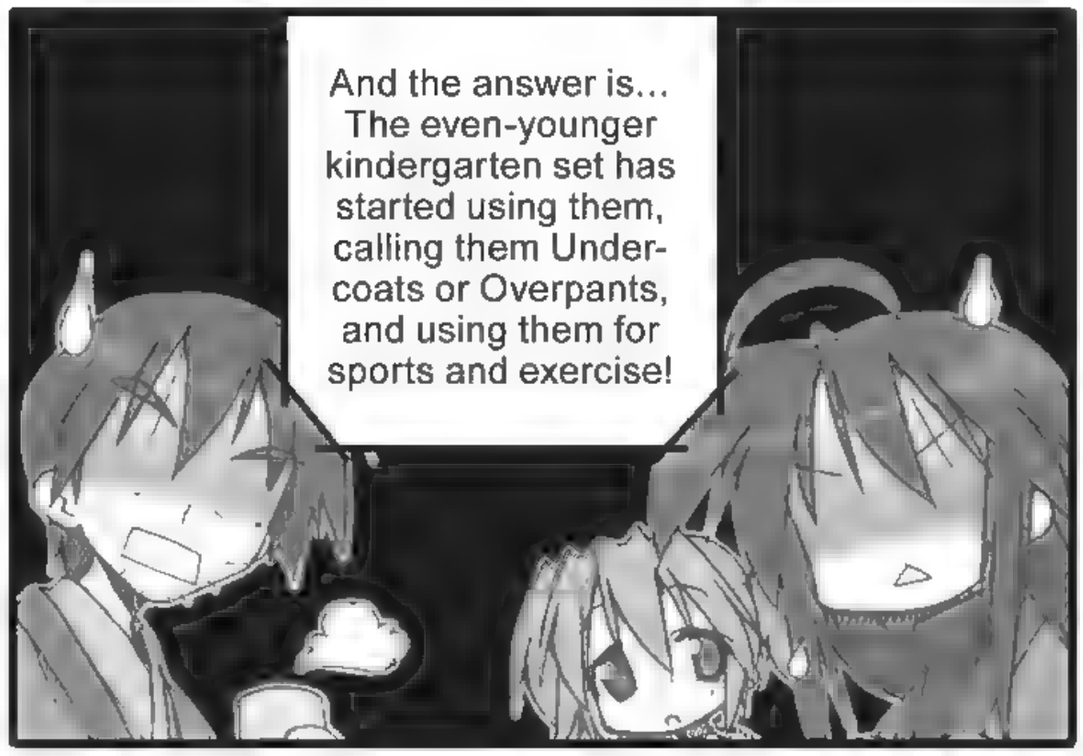

...I THINK I SENSED IT.
IT WAS ONLY FAINT, BUT...

...I HAVE TO ADMIT THAT IT LOOKS TO BE TRUE.
AND WHEN PEOPLE COM-MENT...

WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME, SO LET'S JUST INK WHAT YOU HAVE AND CALL IT DONE.
Are you still staring at that?
SOMETHING THAT MAY LOOK GREAT IN PENCILS WILL LOSE ITS CHARM WHEN I FINALIZE IT IN INKS.

What did that new item report?
You may know that the gym shorts called "bloomers" have disappeared from Japanese grade schools everywhere, but a recent news item tells us where they've started to sell!
Here's the next ques-tion!

BUT I WONDER IF THEY ACTU-ALLY INTEND TO BROADCAST IT ON A SHOW LIKE GOLDEN LIVING ROOM...?
UM... WELL, I HAVE A FEELING I KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT ONE.


And the answer is... The even-younger kindergarten set has started using them, calling them Under-coats or Overpants, and using them for sports and exercise!

I THINK WE'VE DUG OURSELVES INTO A HOLE, AND WE'LL NEVER GET OUT...
HMM... YOU AND I HAVE PRETTY DIRTY MINDS.
?

Lucky☆Star

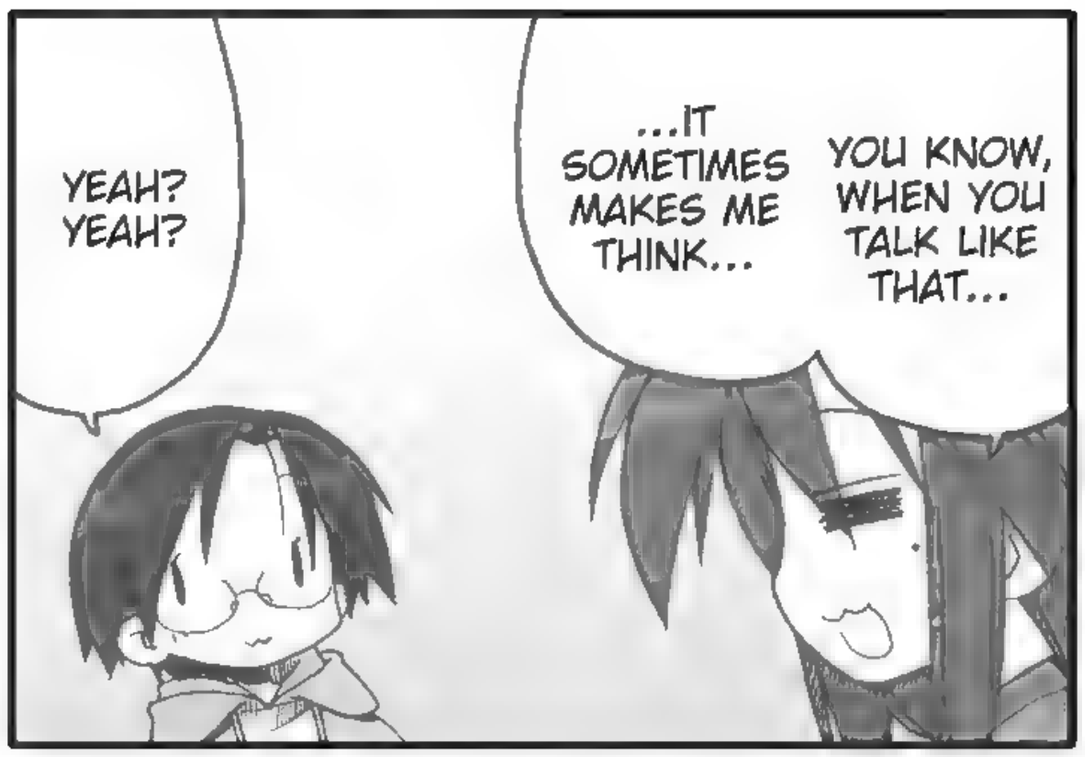
episode 180
my lover

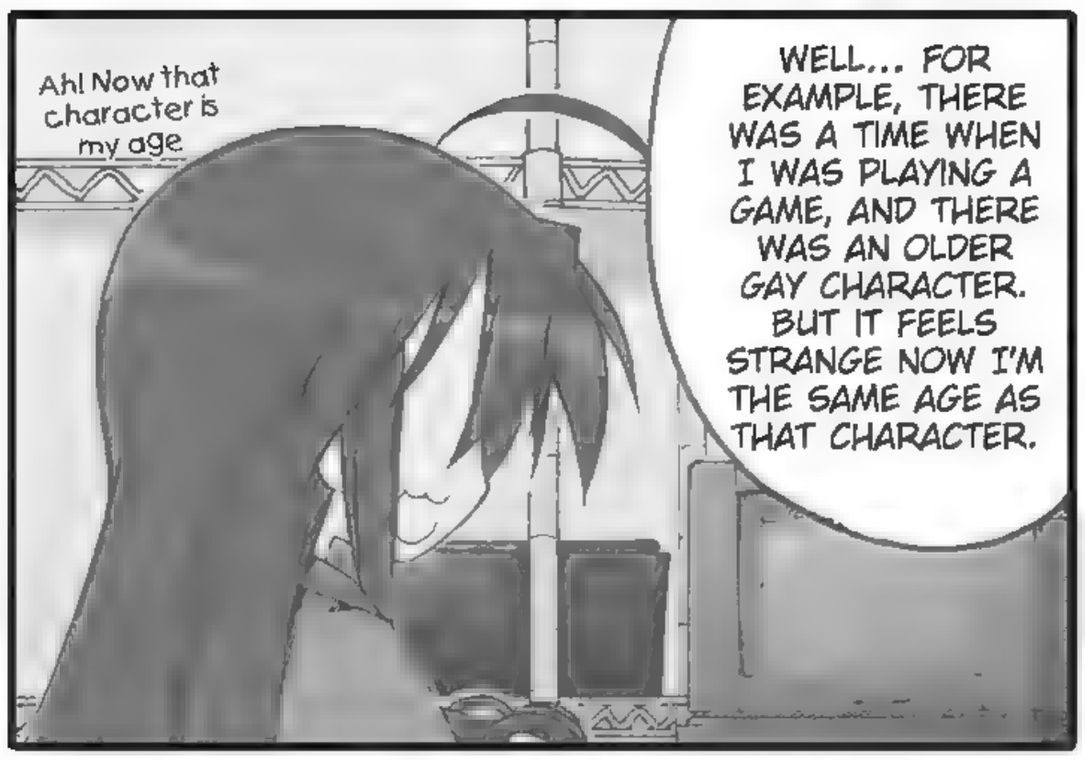
IS THAT RIGHT?
Not that I'd know anything about it.
Come in!
We've come to visit!
WELL, IT'S JUST THAT RECENTLY THERE IS A LOT MORE STUFF AIMED AT THE OTAKU.

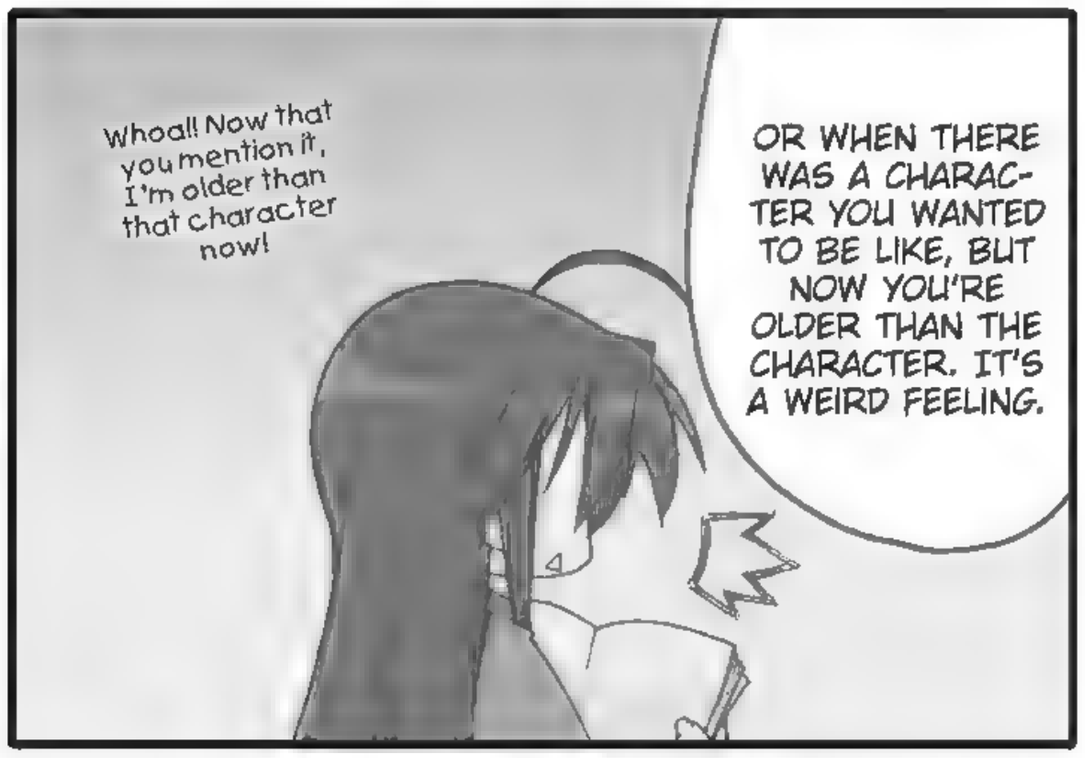
I DON'T KNOW... I'M DELIBERATING NOW WHAT KIND OF REACTION I SHOULD HAVE TO THAT STATEMENT.
There are too many ways to take it.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

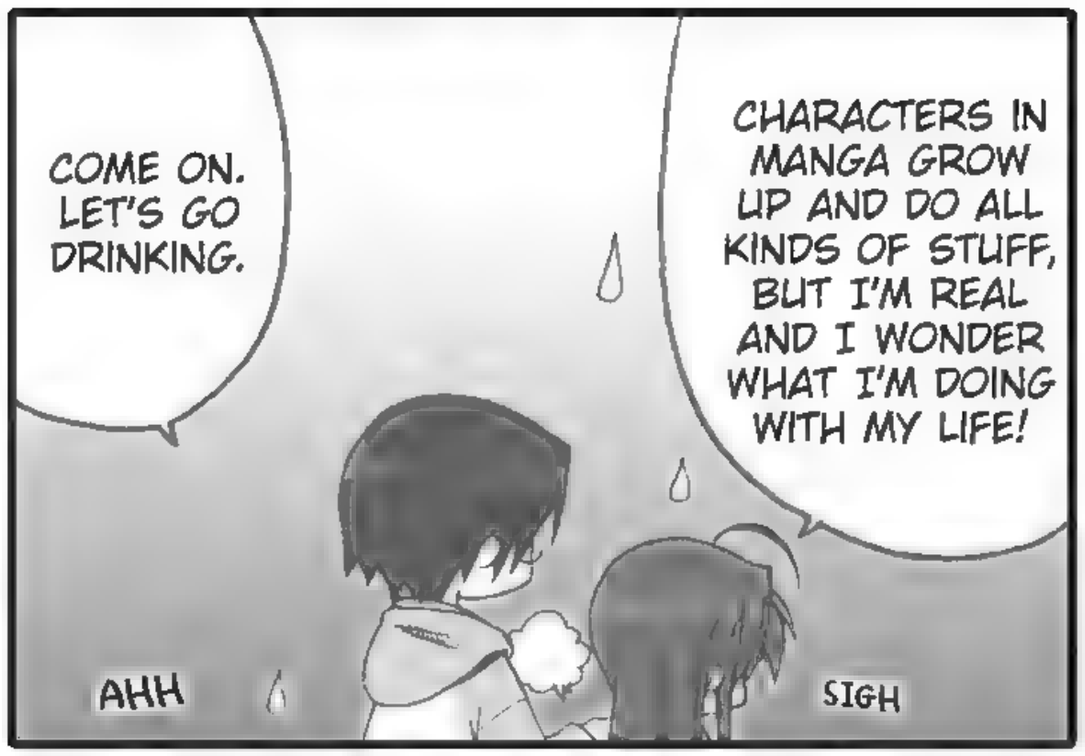
● Comp Ace, July 2008 issue

us at that time

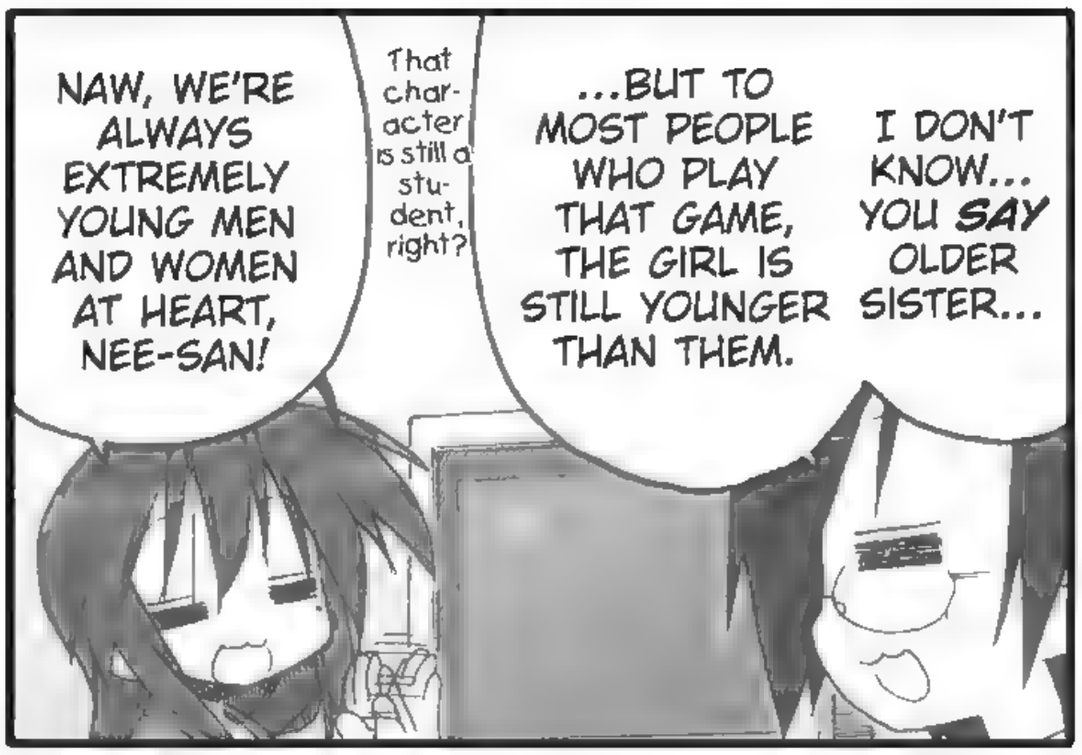



Ah! Now that character is my age
WELL... FOR EXAMPLE, THERE WAS A TIME WHEN I WAS PLAYING A GAME, AND THERE WAS AN OLDER GAY CHARACTER. BUT IT FEELS STRANGE NOW I'M THE SAME AGE AS THAT CHARACTER.

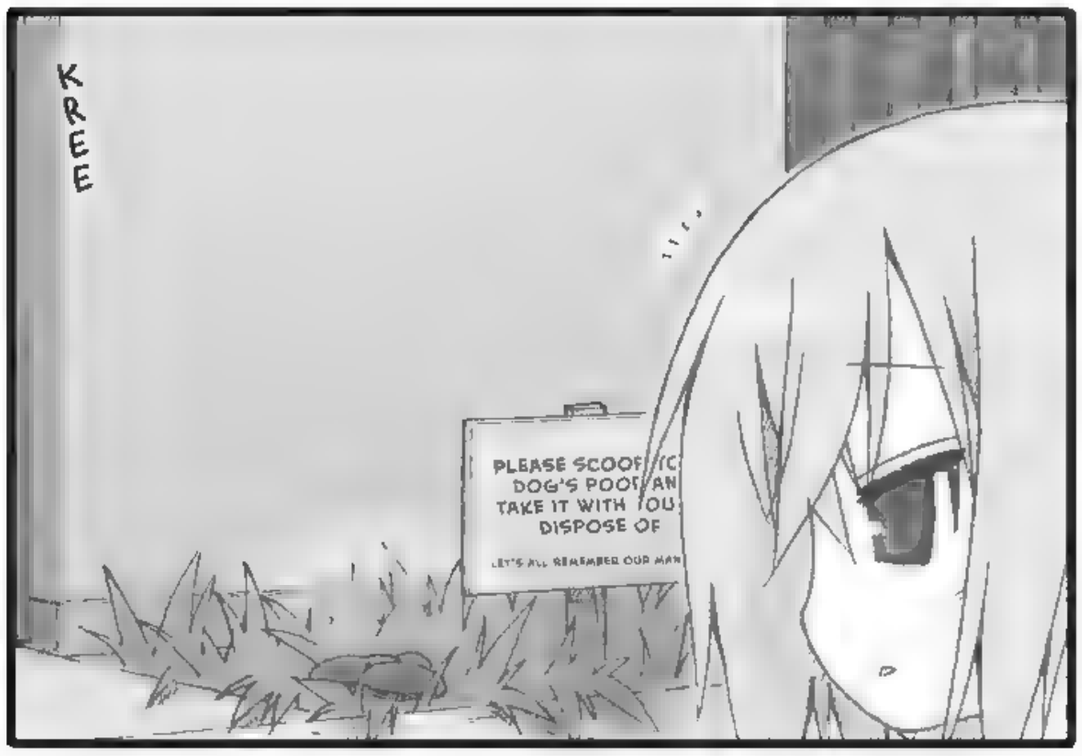

Whoa!! Now that you mention it, I'm older than that character now!
OR WHEN THERE WAS A CHARACTER YOU WANTED TO BE LIKE, BUT NOW YOU'RE OLDER THAN THE CHARACTER. IT'S A WEIRD FEELING.

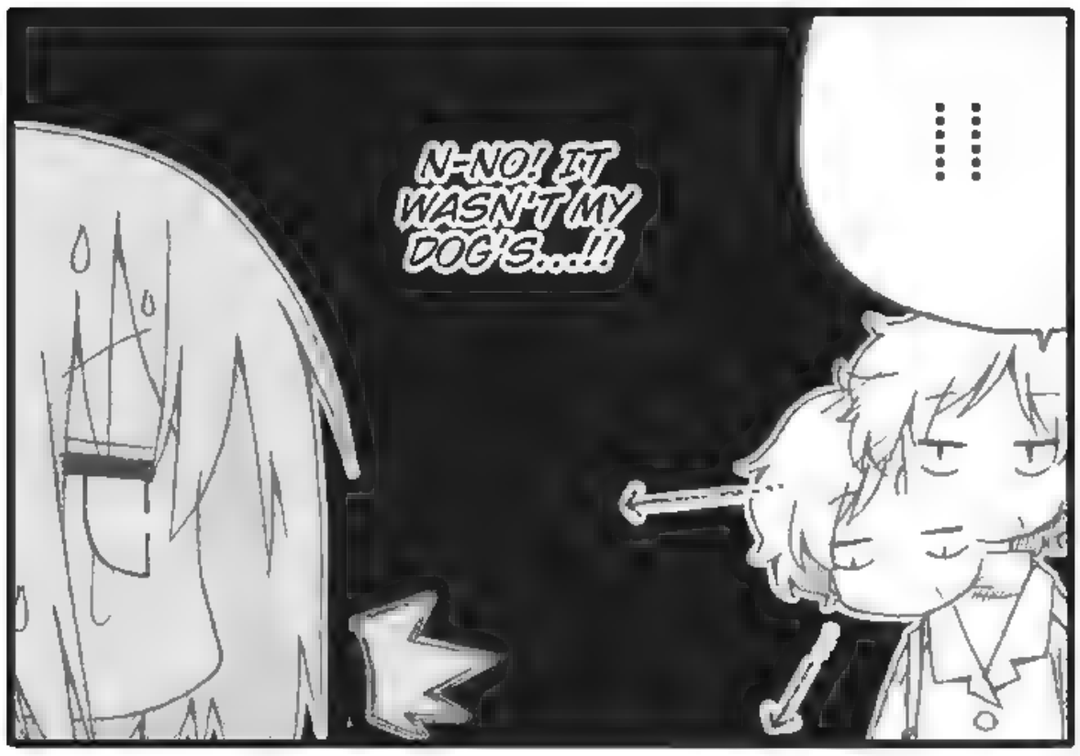

COME ON. LET'S GO DRINKING.
AHH
CHARACTERS IN MANGA GROW UP AND DO ALL KINDS OF STUFF, BUT I'M REAL AND I WONDER WHAT I'M DOING WITH MY LIFE!
SIGH

relativism


NAW, WE'RE ALWAYS EXTREMELY YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN AT HEART, NEE-SAN!
That character is still a student, right?
...BUT TO MOST PEOPLE WHO PLAY THAT GAME, THE GIRL IS STILL YOUNGER THAN THEM.
I DON'T KNOW... YOU SAY OLDER SISTER...

framed





as long as you're healthy

I'M SO GLAD CHERRY WAS JUST IGNORING ME...
For a second there, I thought you were dead
OH, THANK GOODNESS! CHERRY'S STILL BREATHING!
PHEW
HAH! HAH!

Lucky☆Star

episode 181
precious words

HIIRAGI GOT CALLED BY THE SENSEI AND IS OUT DOING SOME-THING.
OH, YOU'RE HIIRAGI'S LITTLE SISTER, RIGHT?
GLANCE
GLANCE
HEY, IF MINE WILL DO YOU ANY GOOD, YOU CAN BORROW IT.
You mess up a lot, huh? Unlike your sister.
We have world his tory class coming up today.
AW! I WAS HOPING TO BOR-ROW HER TEXTBOOK. WHAT'LL I DO NOW?
Her world history text-book..
HM?
AH! SAY, AYANO...
Th-Thank you so much!
MISA-CHAN, YOU FORGOT YOURS TOO?
After being so sure you had it...
CAN YOU GO AND LEND HER YOURS?
I wonder what I'm going to do in fifth period?
This'll be bad.

● Comp Ace, August 2008 issue

the voice of truth

COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU'VE BEEN COMING TO SCHOOL EVERY-DAY, HAVEN'T YOU, KONATA?

I thought that when coming to school became optional, you'd stay at home playing games.

I NEVER KNOW WHAT TO STUDY FIRST WHEN I'M STUDYING ALONE.

WELL, I THOUGHT I'D AT LEAST GO THROUGH THE MOTIONS OF TRYING TO GET MYSELF ACCEPTED BY A COLLEGE.

LIKE THAT.

EVERYBODY ELSE IS COMING TO SCHOOL.

ALSO, YOU KNOW ...

EVERY SO OFTEN ...

AH HA HA

...THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I ACTUALLY RESPECT YOU.

But it's the truth!

WHEN YOU SAY IT THROUGH THAT FORCED SMILE, YOU LACK CRED-IBILITY.

server

DIDN'T YOU USE YOUR FAVORITE DOG BREED?

ONEE-CHAN, REMEMBER THAT HOMEPAGE I WAS AT BEFORE? WHAT WAS MY ID?

NEE-SAN? THAT WAS YOUR NICKNAME, RIGHT?

KAGAMI, WHAT WAS MY USER PASSWORD ON THE PC?

MOTHER, REMEM-BER? IT'S WRITTEN DOWN ON A SLIP OF PAPER INSIDE THE SECOND DRAWER FROM THE TOP IN YOUR ROOM DRESSER.

KAGAMI, DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR ACCOUNT NUMBER?

THAT'S BECAUSE I SEEM TO BE THE STANDARD GO-TO PERSON WHEN ANYBODY HAS PC PROBLEMS AND STUFF LIKE THAT.

But don't blame me if something goes wrong with that!

KAGAMI, YOU'RE STRANGELY FAMILIAR WITH EVERYBODY ELSE'S INFOR-MATION.

because it's her

BUT WHAT DISAPPOINTED ME WAS THAT IT WASN'T A CHARM FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS BUT ONE FOR GOOD HEALTH.

I'll gladly take it, though.

AND SO YU-CHAN GAVE ME A CHARM!

AH! DO YOU HAVE ANY THAT WARDS OFF ILLNESS?

EH?

SO, YOU'LL WANT ONE FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS, RIGHT?

SO IF SHE'S HEALTHY ON THE DAY OF THE TEST, SHE'S SURE TO PASS IT!

AND WHEN SHE SETS HER MIND TO DOING SOMETHING, SHE DOES IT!

SOMETIMES, WHEN THINGS GET HECTIC, ONEE-CHAN'S HEALTH CAN TAKE A TUMBLE.

She's so energetic most of the time.

??? S-SURE...

Of course I will...

KONATA... YOU'D BETTER GIVE EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT ON THESE EXAMS!

a set degree of difficulty

HEY, INORI-NEESAN? AH! YUTAKA-CHAN

Ah! Kagami! You two know each other?

IT'S STRANGE TO SEE YOU HERE? WHAT'S UP?

AH, SEMPAI! HELLO!

IS THAT SO?

I WAS HOPING TO BUY A CHARM SO THAT ONEE-SAN'S ENTRANCE EXAMS WOULD GO WELL.

THIS IS DANGEROUS! I HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT PASSING MY EXAMS IS SOMETHING I HAVE TO STRUGGLE FOR MYSELF!

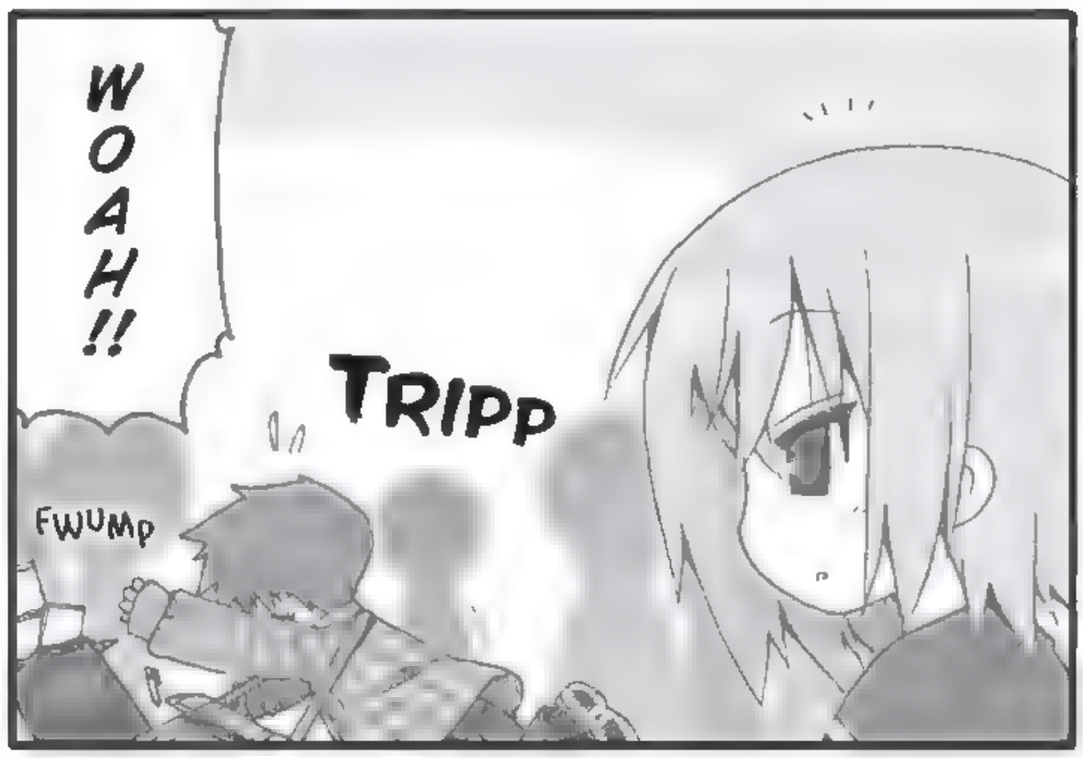
I can't rely on the gods' help!

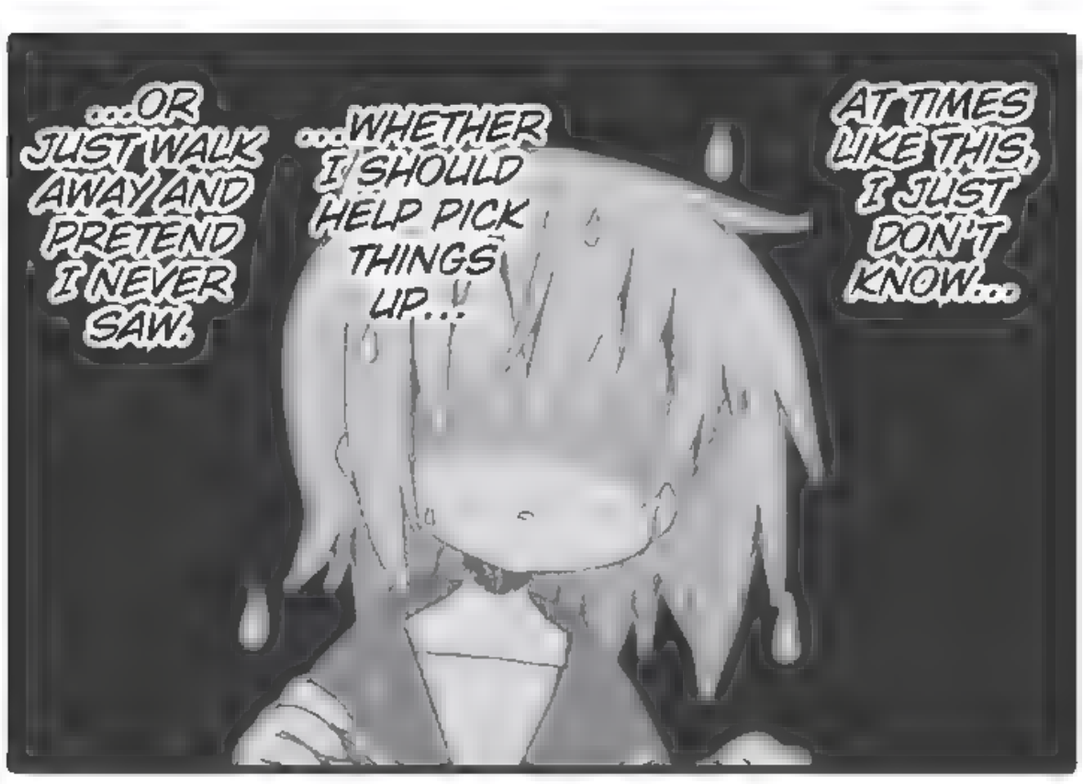
AH HA HA! THANK YOU!

O-OF COURSE, I'M ROOTING FOR YOU TOO, HIIRAGI-SEMPAI!

Lucky☆Star

episode 182
that kind of daily life





● Comp Ace, September 2008 issue

not taking a stand

ARE YOU TWO DOING THAT AGAIN?
There's no helping some people!
Ah! I did that once on a test paper!
Sometimes in class, I start sketching absently on one of the handouts, but the sketch is good so I want to keep it...
EH? AH, Y-YES, THAT'S TRUE, HUH?
WHEN I READ TAMURA-SAN'S MANGA, I ALWAYS FIND MYSELF NODDING AND REMEMBERING WHEN THAT HAPPENED TO ME!
Just like now.
Right?
HM?
HEEEY! YU-CHAN, COME HERE!
I sort of under-stand! Really I do!
TH-THAT ISN'T TRUE...!
YOU DON'T REALLY HAVE TO AGREE WHEN SOMEBODY SAYS SOMETHING YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
When you don't have the experience, you don't get the "that always happens" humor.
Yu-chan, you don't get sleepy in class.
PANIC
PANIC

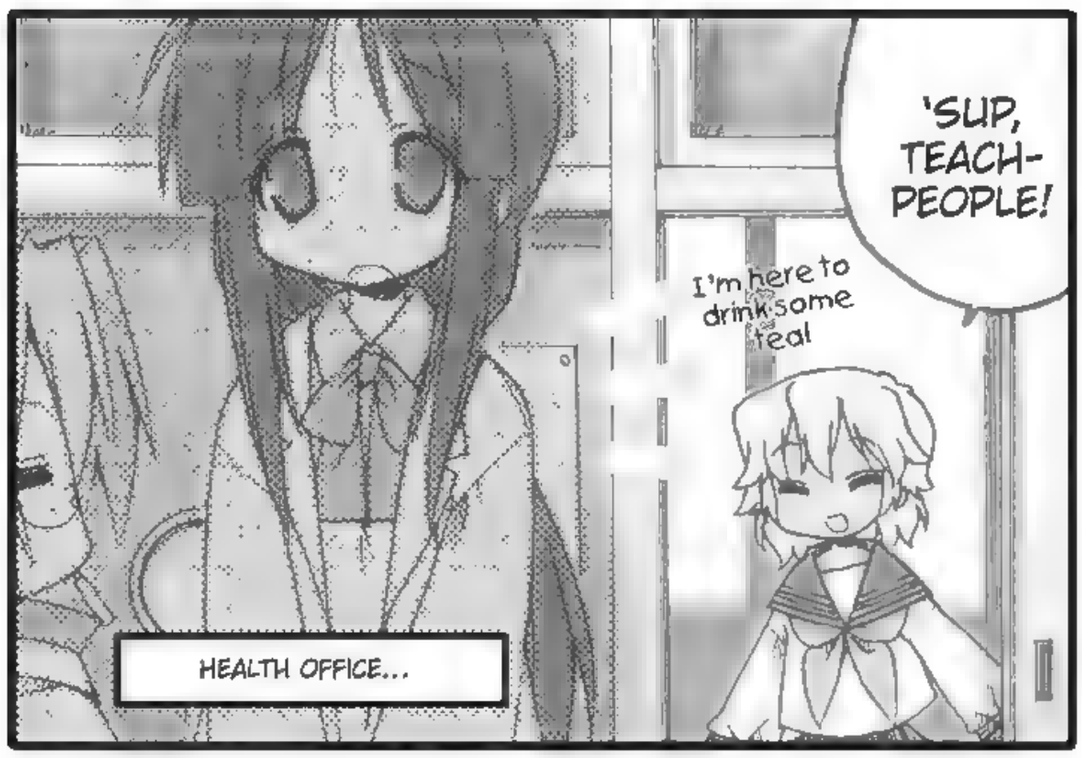
dream letters

HUUUH? STORY... GOOD... ONE... MMBLE...
SKRTCH SKRTCH
GOTTA... WRITE... NOTE-BOOK...
THE NEXT DAY...
MY NOTES ARE EXACTLY THE SAME WHEN I'M SLEEPY IN CLASS.
I'm a terrible writer when I'm sleepy.
AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED. I NEVER DID FIGURE OUT WHAT I WROTE.
I know..
...how you feel!

lose

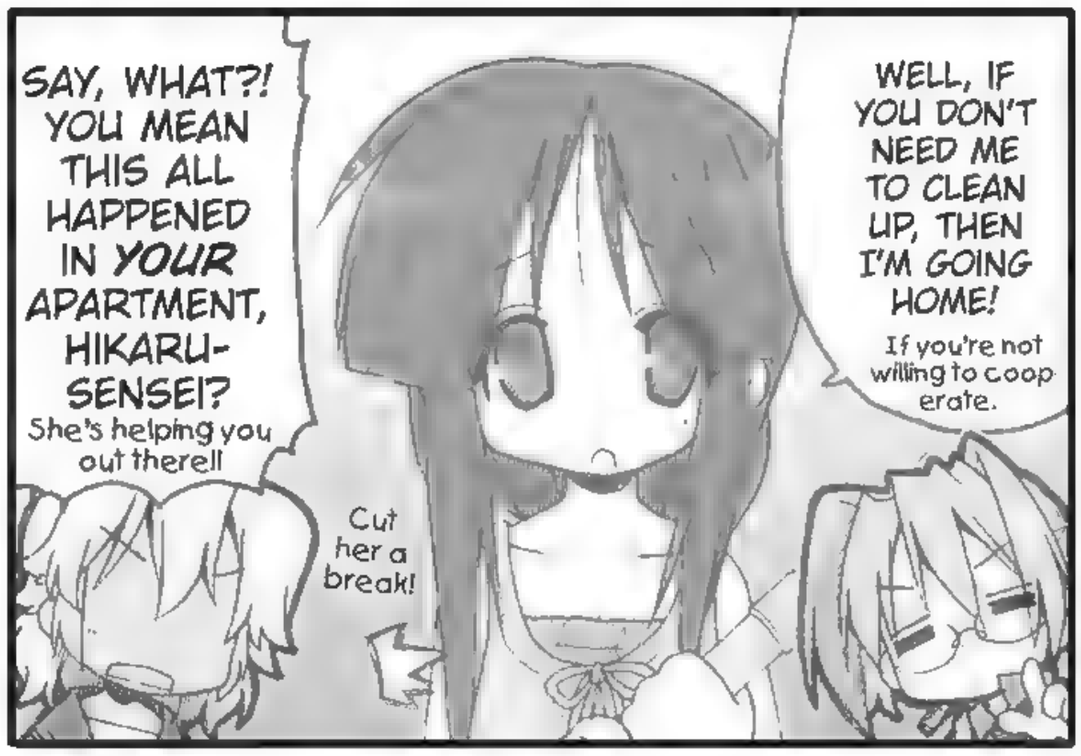
I DON'T KNOW IF I'D CALL IT SOFT... WHEN I SEE A MESSY ROOM, I CAN'T LET IT ALONE.
Especially in a place I go to a lot.
YOU'RE TOO SOFT, FUBUKI-CHAN!
That's why you get taken advantage of!
Okay, I'll give you 30 minutes, but then I'm cleaning!
Yeah, okay.

point of view



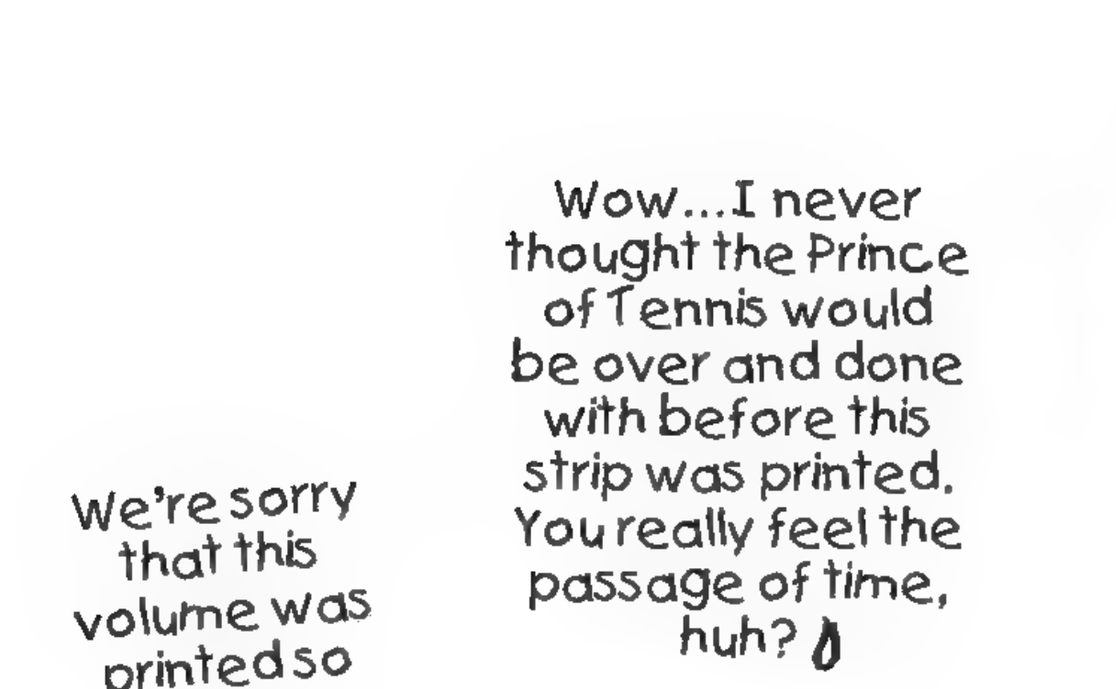
EHH?
HM? ONCE FUYUKI DECIDES TO DO SOMETHING, SHE BARGES ON WITHOUT ANY REGARD FOR HOW PEOPLE ARE TAKING IT.
WHAT'S WITH THE TENSION IN HERE?

AH... I GUESS THINGS LIKE THAT HAPPEN, HUH?
Cleaning when you have guests...
VRRRRMM
It doesn't have to be done now, does it?
I'M READING RIGHT NOW. CAN'T YOU DO THAT LATER?
I'M CLEANING, IF YOU PLEASE...


SAY, WHAT?! YOU MEAN THIS ALL HAPPENED IN YOUR APARTMENT, HIKARU-SENSEI?
She's helping you out there!!
Cut her a break!
WELL, IF YOU DON'T NEED ME TO CLEAN UP, THEN I'M GOING HOME!
If you're not willing to cooperate.

We're sorry that this volume was printed so late!

Wow...I never thought the Prince of Tennis would be over and done with before this strip was printed. You really feel the passage of time, huh?



there come those kind of students

THE GUIDE BOOK FOR AOYAMA GAKUIN UNIVER-SITY.
'Sup.
'SUP, KAGAMI! WHAT'S THAT?
YOU SHOULD THINK A BIT ABOUT YOUR FUTURE TOO.
OH! OHH! YOU'RE TRYING TO PASS THEIR ENTRANCE EXAMS, RIGHT?
青山学院大学

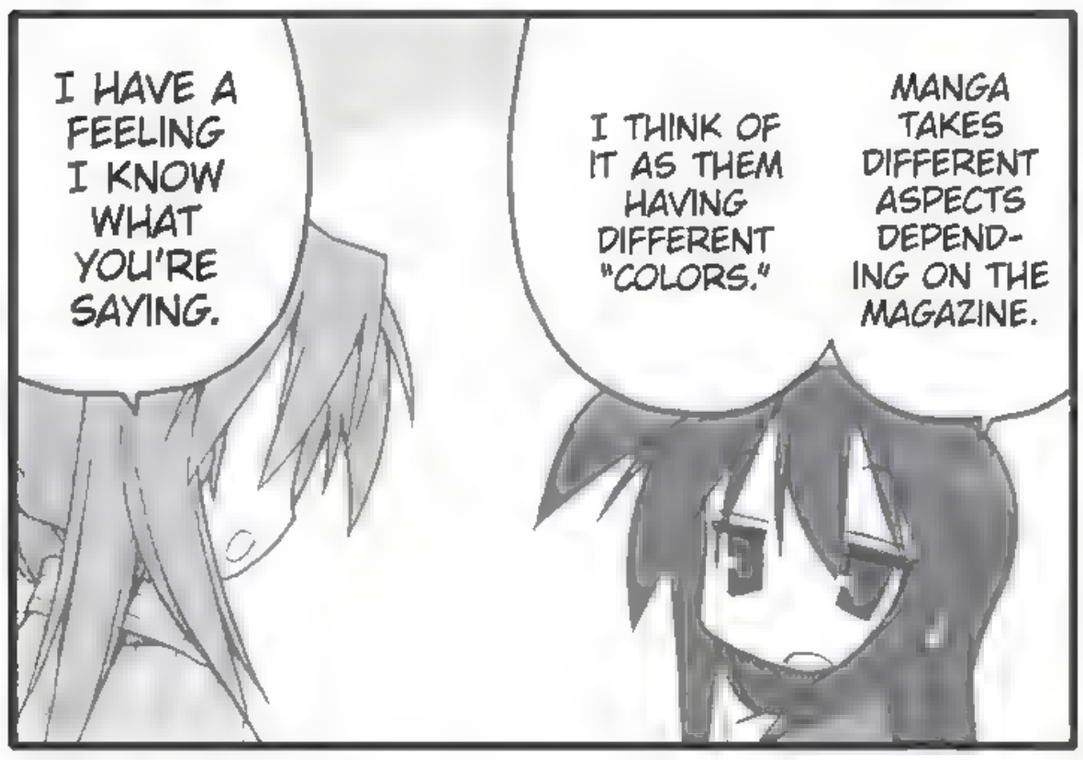
THERE'S A SCHOOL WITH HIGH IDEALS THAT YOU SHOULD BE APOLO-GIZING TO RIGHT NOW.
I read this university's nickname not as "Aogaku," but as "Sei-gaku" too.
WHEN YOU COVER UP THE LETTER LIKE THAT, DOESN'T IT LOOK LIKE THE SCHOOL PRINCE OF TENNIS IS GOING TO?
Although the manga has it as Gakuen, not Gakuin.

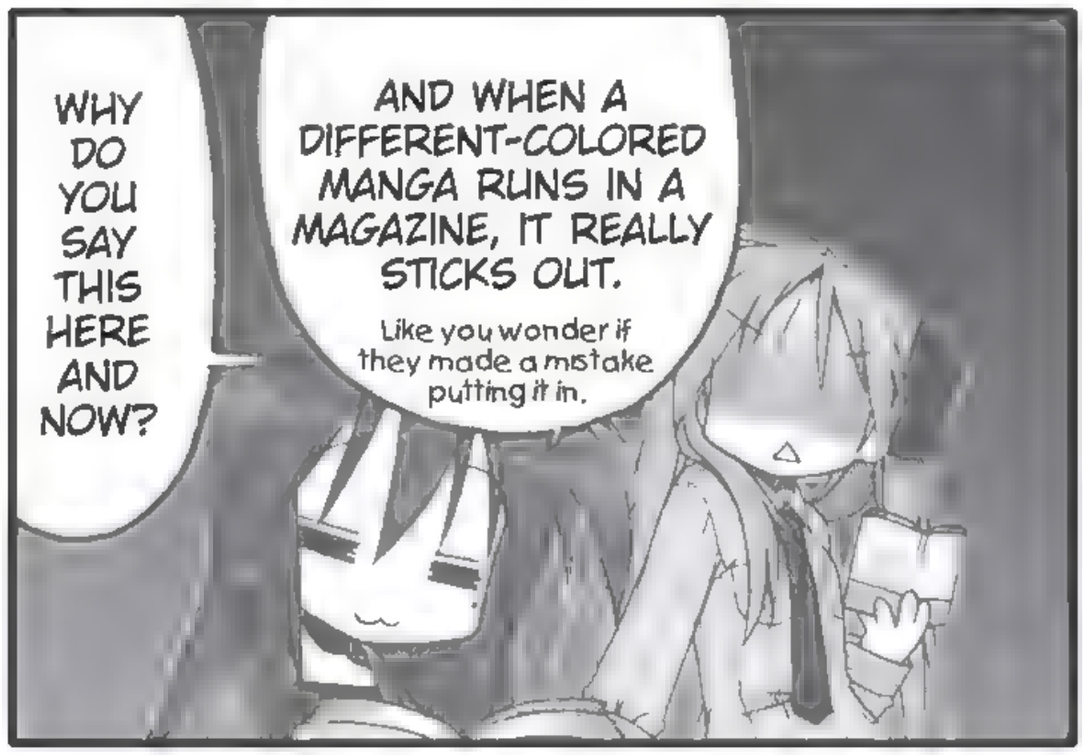
● from Kagami Yoshimizu in Aoyama!! 2007

mixing

Lucky☆Star

episode 183
the japan in my heart

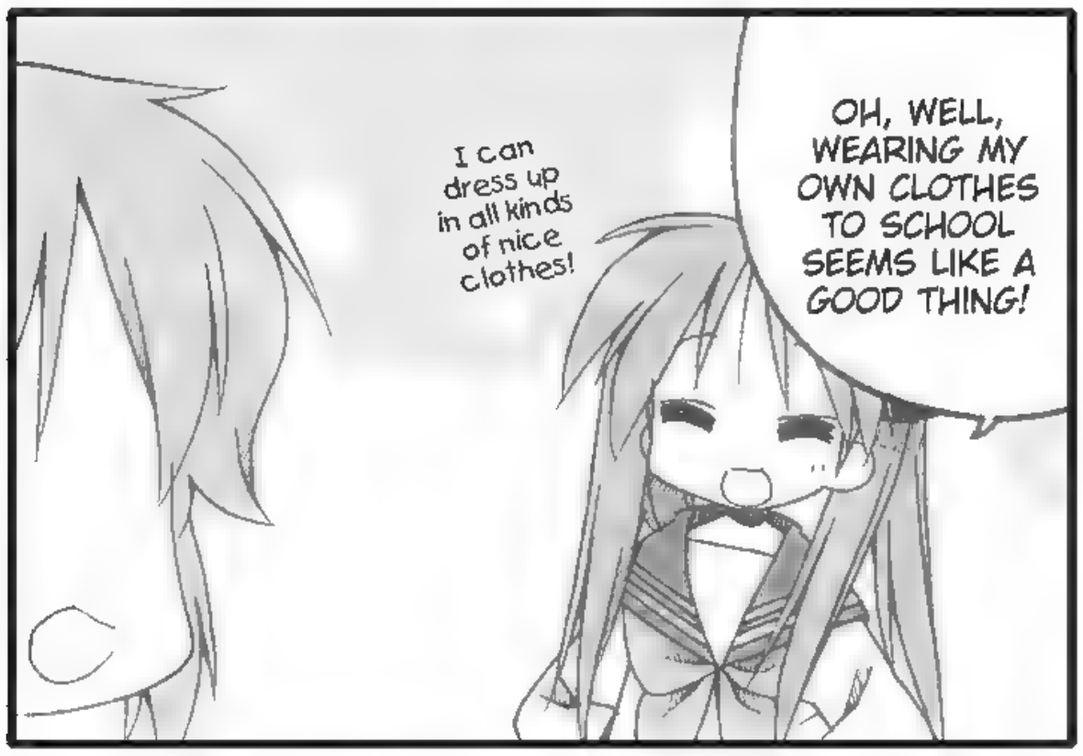

I HAVE A FEELING I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.
I THINK OF IT AS THEM HAVING DIFFERENT "COLORS."
MANGA TAKES DIFFERENT ASPECTS DEPEND-ING ON THE MAGAZINE.


WHY DO YOU SAY THIS HERE AND NOW?
AND WHEN A DIFFERENT-COLORED MANGA RUNS IN A MAGAZINE, IT REALLY STICKS OUT.
Like you wonder if they made a mistake putting it in.

● Monthly Asuka, June 2008 issue

proof

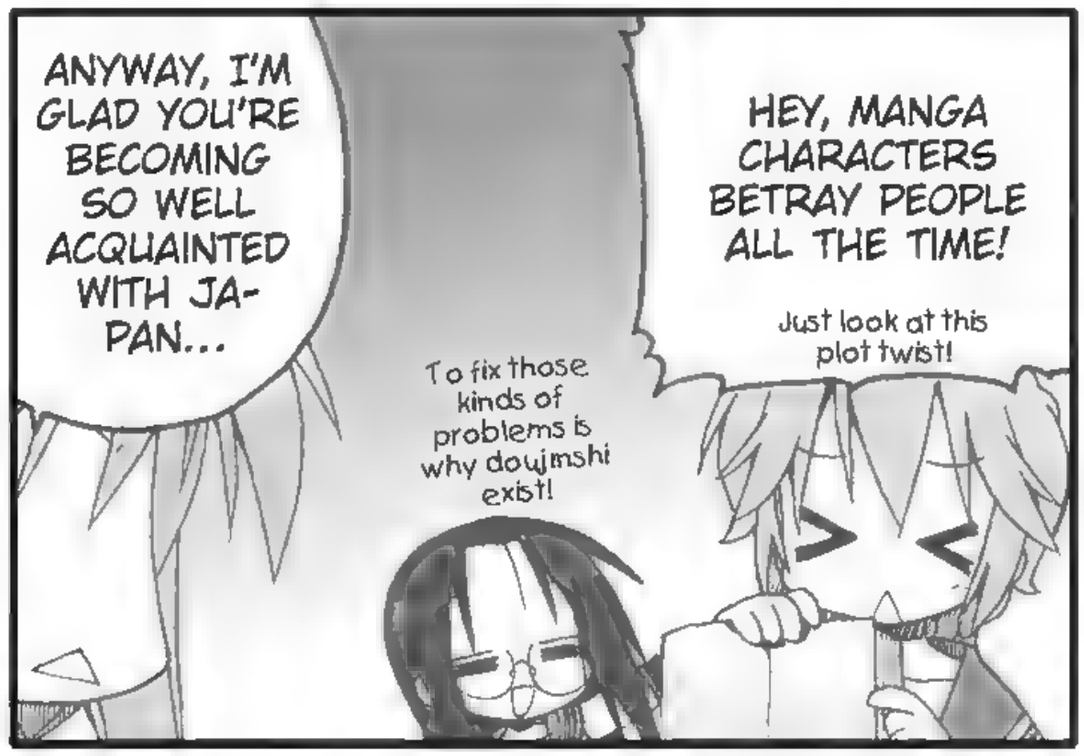
IN AMERICA, NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO, YOU HARDLY EVER SEE SCHOOL UNIFORMS.
WELL, AT FIRST GLANCE, THE THING THAT'S MOST DIFFERENT ARE THE UNIFORMS.



my prince

These young people who live in a bubble with no human communication, interacting only with manga and anime because they know it will never betray them...

STILL, THERE ARE PARTS OF THOSE REPORTS THAT ARE TRUE, SO WHAT CAN WE EXPECT.
Konata, so you were here?
Hello, Patricia-san!
AND THERE ARE TOO, TOO MANY BIASED NEWS REPORTS!
Ah, Kagami.

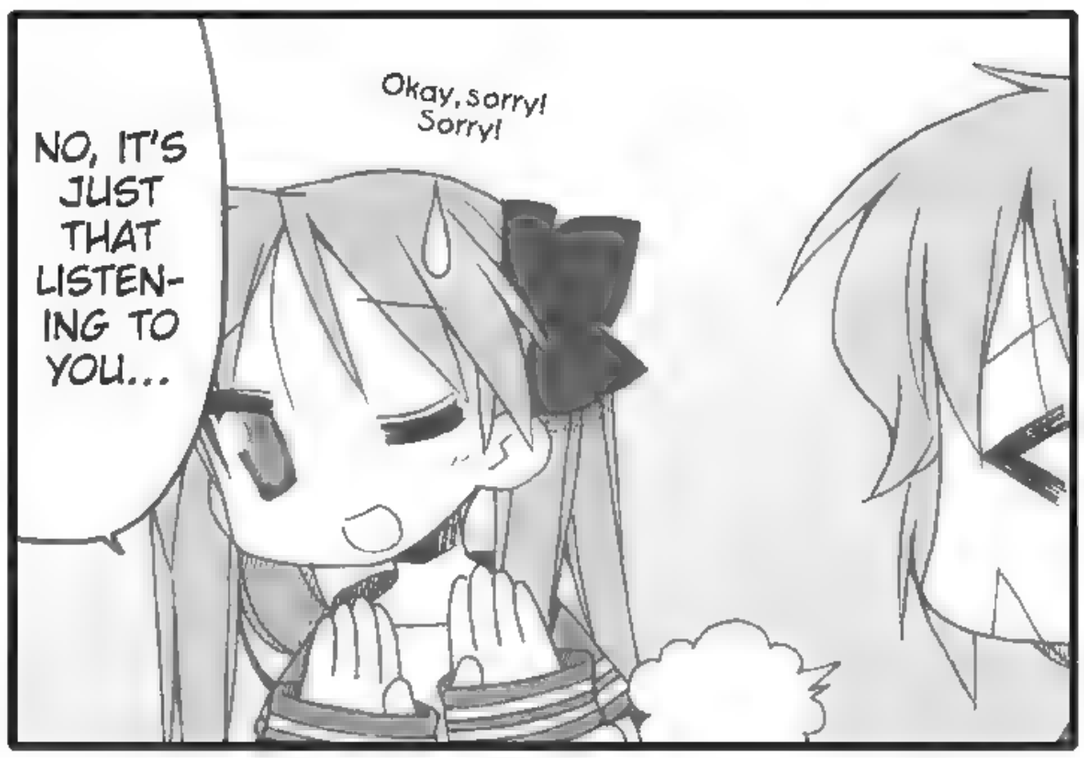

ANYWAY, I'M GLAD YOU'RE BECOMING SO WELL ACQUAINTED WITH JA-PAN...
To fix those kinds of problems is why doujinshi exist!
HEY, MANGA CHARACTERS BETRAY PEOPLE ALL THE TIME!
Just look at this plot twist!

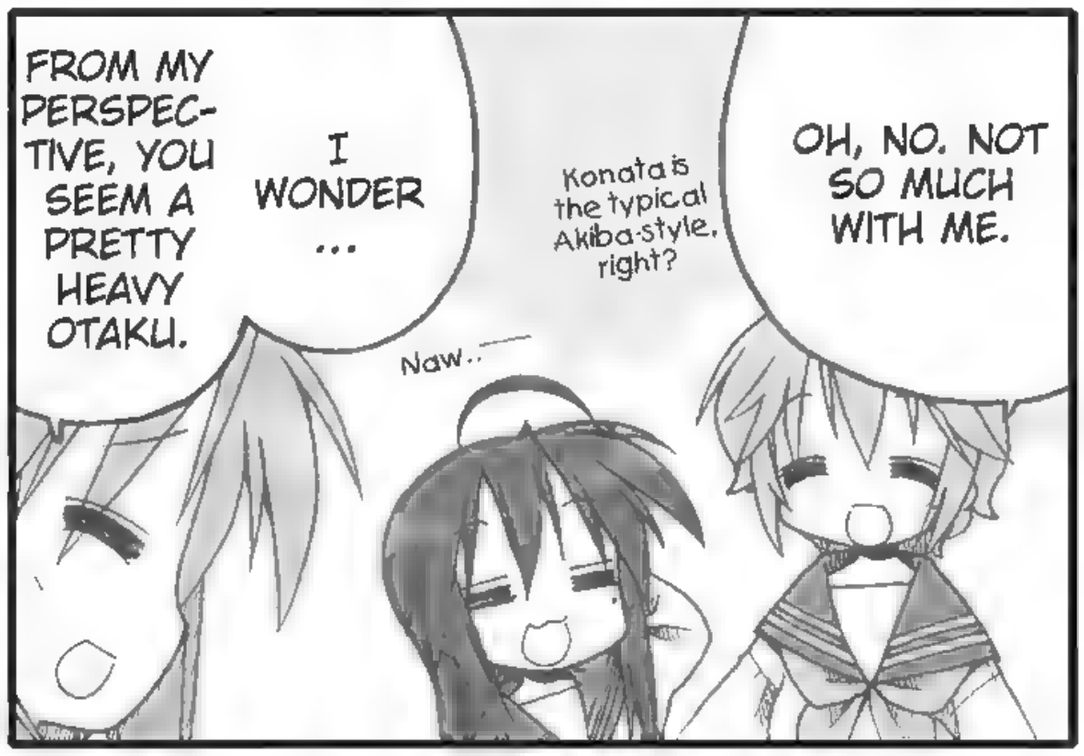
japanese culture

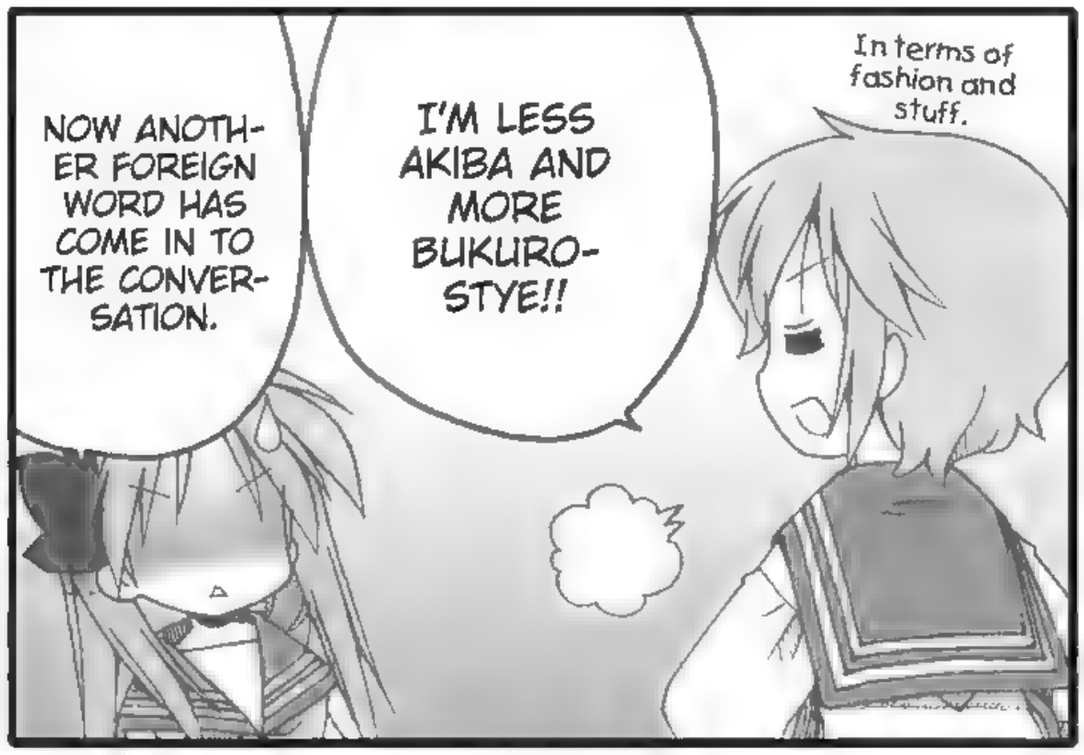
AKIBA, ON THE WHOLE, IS ABOUT MOE. ITS IMAGE IS "MOE GIRLS."
IKEBUKURO IS ALL ABOUT THE BL, IN OTHER WORDS, "MOE GUYS IN LOVE" IS THEIR MAIN THING.

BUT YOU WERE BORN AND RAISED IN JAPAN! WHAT A WASTE!
YOU'VE DAMAGED A FULL HALF OF YOUR LIFE!
OTAKU ARE A MINORITY IN JAPAN, YOU KNOW!
JUST WHAT KIND OF IMPRES-SION ARE WE GIVING TO FOREIGN COUN-TRIES?!
How incom petent of you!

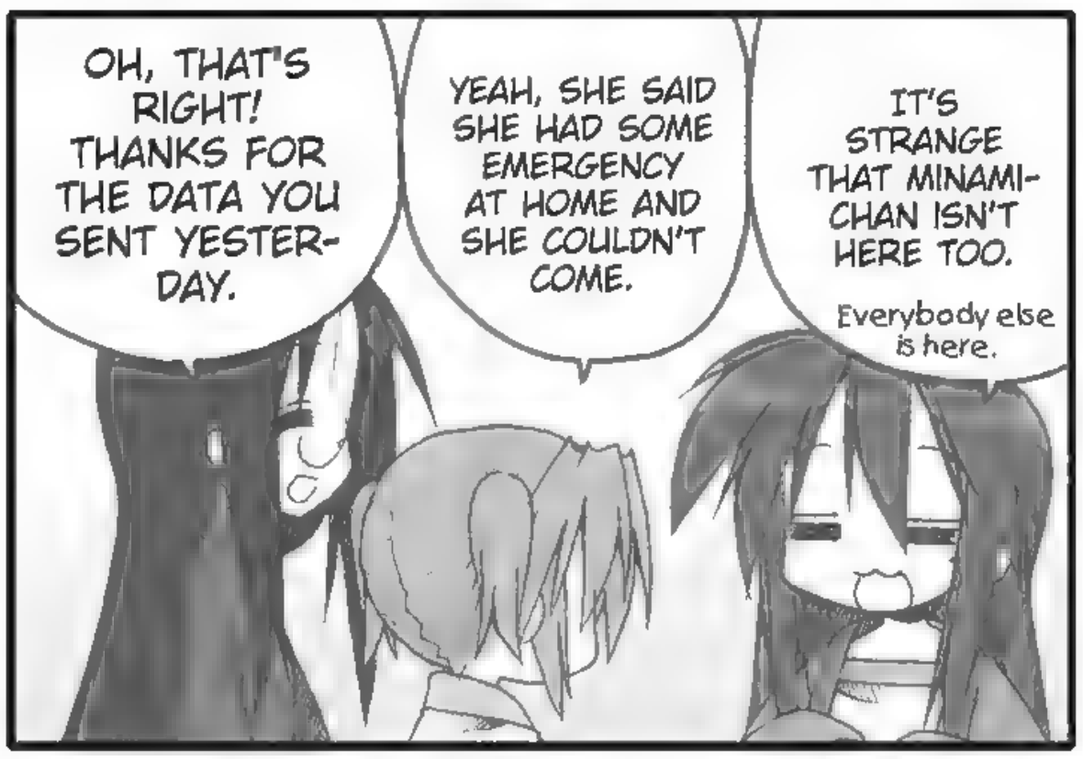
segregation



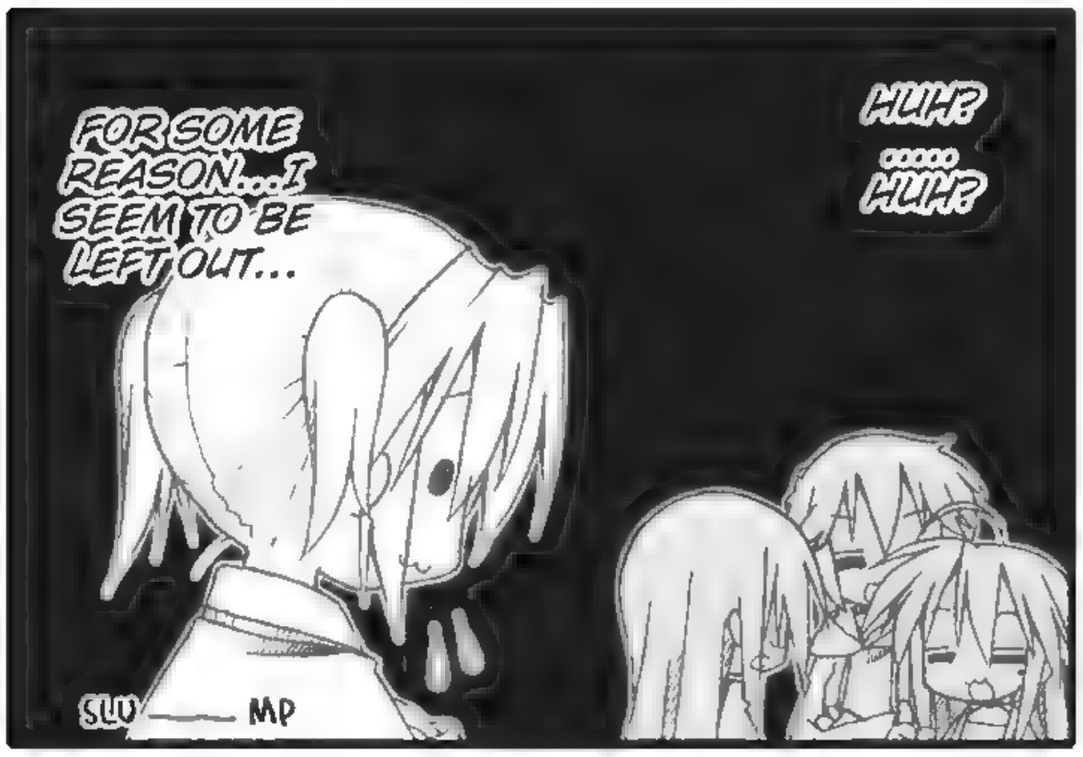

Konata is the typical Akiba-style, right?
Naw...
I WONDER ...
FROM MY PERSPEC-TIVE, YOU SEEM A PRETTY HEAVY OTAKU.
OH, NO. NOT SO MUCH WITH ME.



position


OH, THAT'S RIGHT! THANKS FOR THE DATA YOU SENT YESTER-DAY.
YEAH, SHE SAID SHE HAD SOME EMERGENCY AT HOME AND SHE COULDN'T COME.
IT'S STRANGE THAT MINAMI-CHAN ISN'T HERE TOO.
Everybody else is here.

I'm so impressed that the MADs didn't hurt the reputation of the original at all!!
Of course! And the "MAD" tribute movies hit the net right after!
Did you see the anime?



the magical kiss

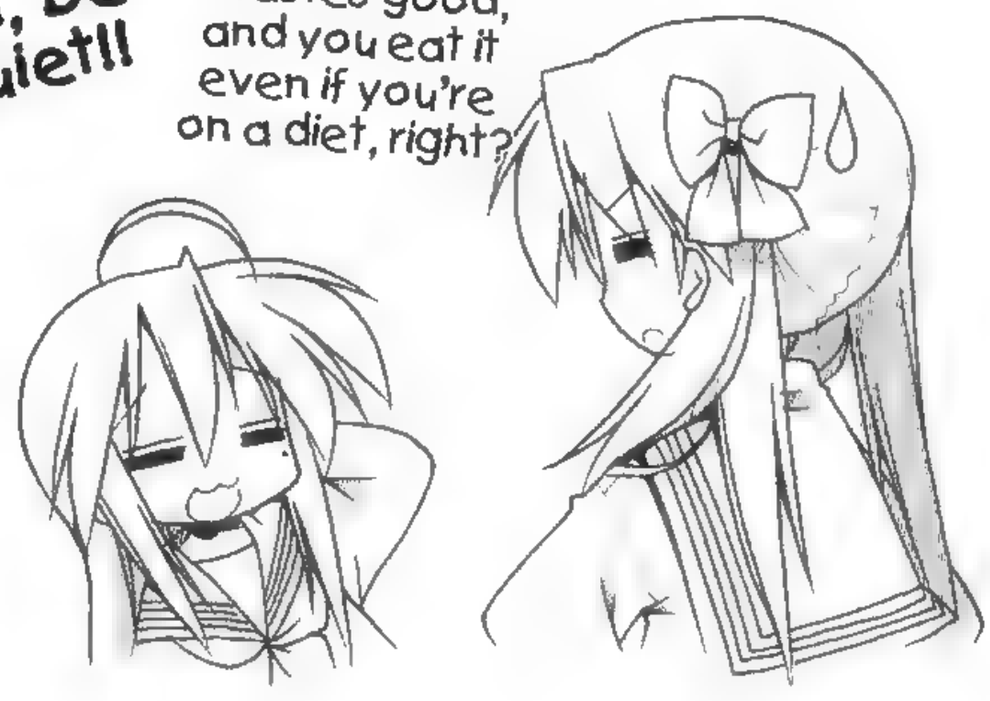
it's begun

WHAT'S THIS? SUPER MODELERS HOBBY MAGAZINE IS OPENING A BRICK-AND-MORTAR SPECIALTY SHOP?
WELL, SINCE IT'S YOU, IT'LL BE JUST ANOTHER PLACE FOR YOU TO GO TO IN AKIHABARA, RIGHT?
NOT AT ALL. IT ISN'T LIKE I'LL JUST GO TO WHATEVER STORE THEY HAPPEN BUILD THERE.
I'm not really into figures you know.
CHUUUU
UUUN
IT'S JUST THAT THE POWER OF A SPECIALTY SHOP IS PRETTY AMAZING.
Things up until a few days ago I never cared about have suddenly...
IT LOOKS PRETTY CLEAR TO ME THAT YOUR INTERESTS HAVE WIDENED.
SIGH
You never know what will bring on a new enlighten ment

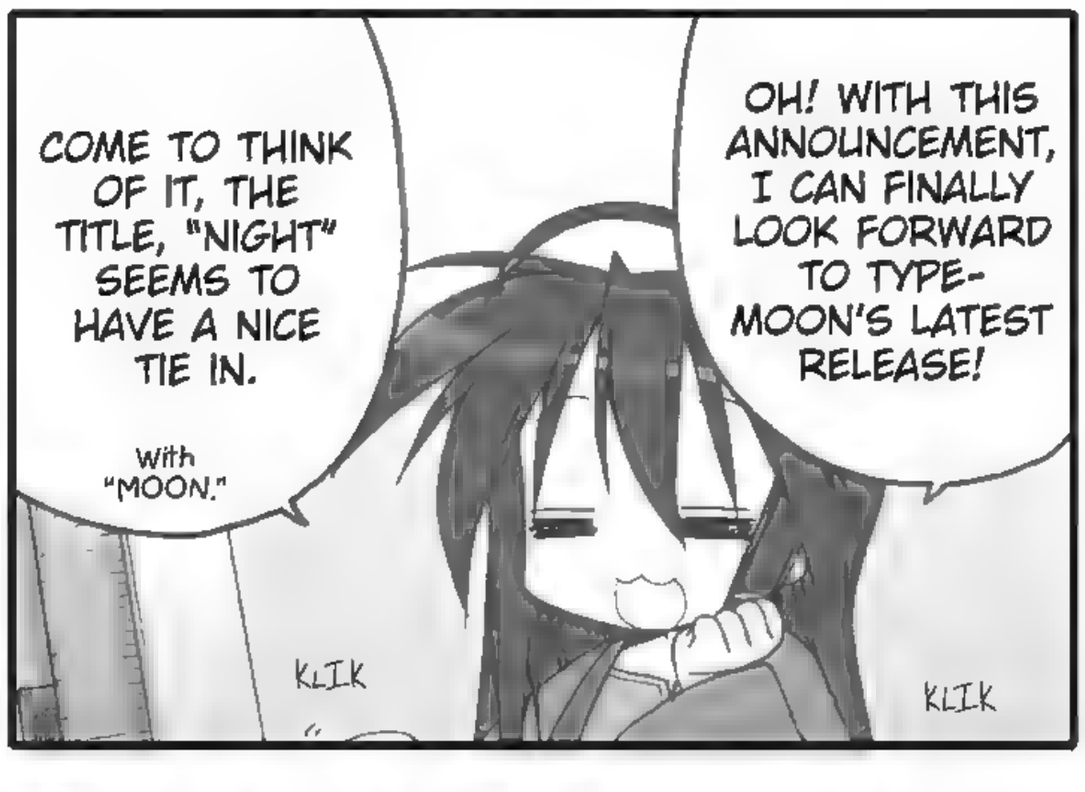
● From Super Modelers Kokuchi-Youkan (Notification Guidebook) 2007

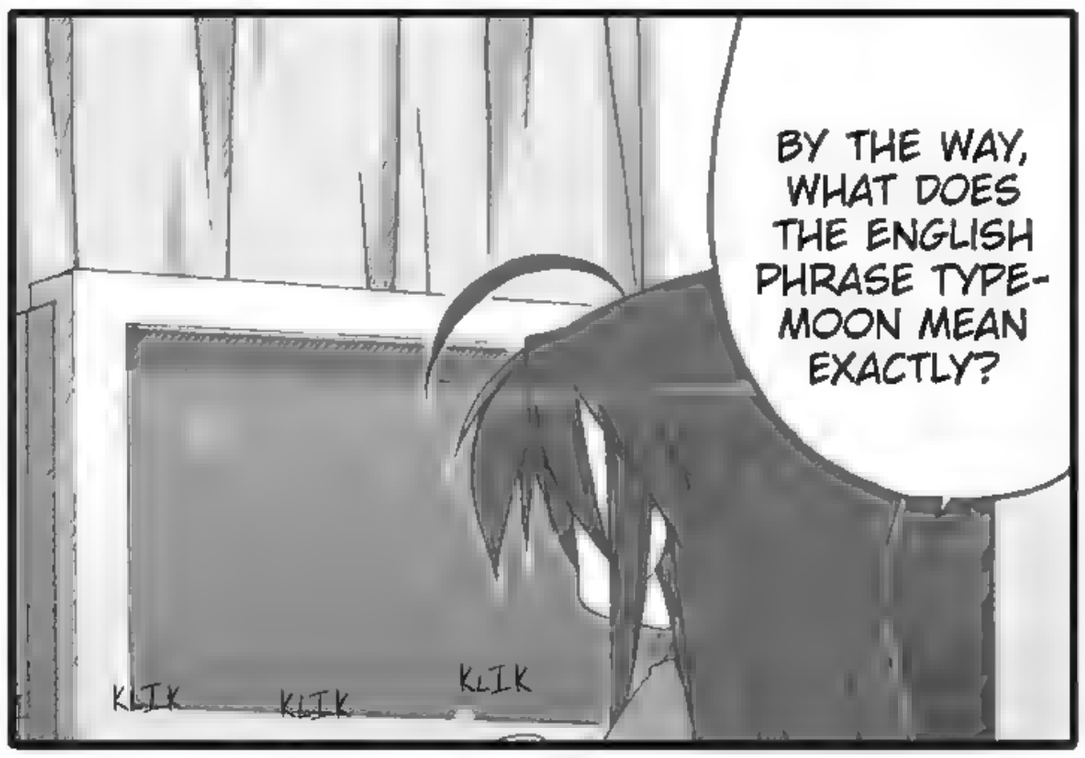
You know... It's so different when you see something from afar and when you hold it in your hands. Like you, Kagami, when you see some cake that looks like it tastes good, and you eat it even if you're on a diet, right?

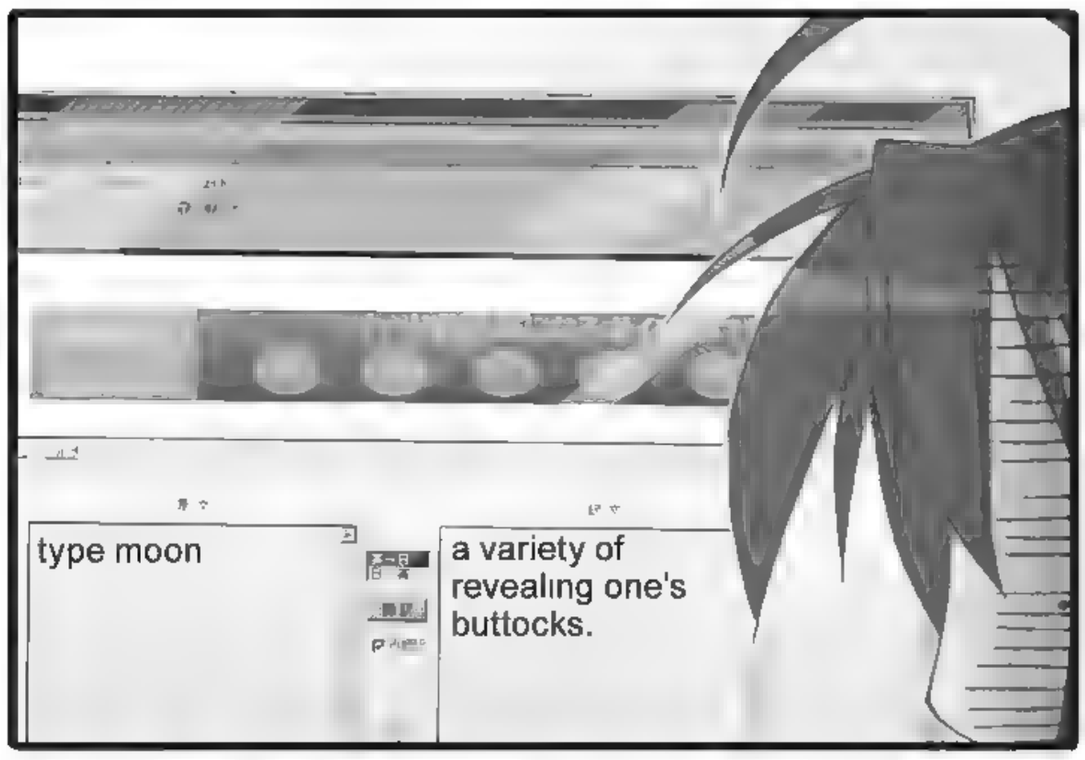
Oh, be quiet!!

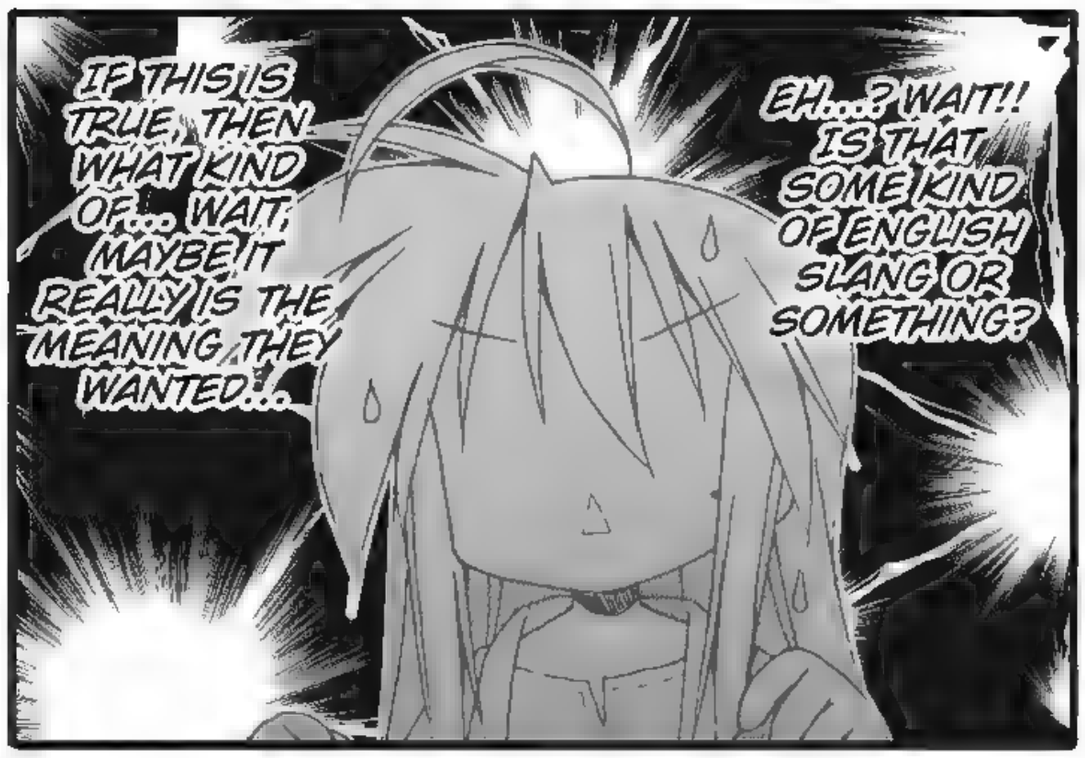


translation self-respect


COME TO THINK OF IT, THE TITLE, "NIGHT" SEEMS TO HAVE A NICE TIE IN.
With "MOON."
OH! WITH THIS ANNOUNCEMENT, I CAN FINALLY LOOK FORWARD TO TYPE-MOON'S LATEST RELEASE!
KLIK
KLIK





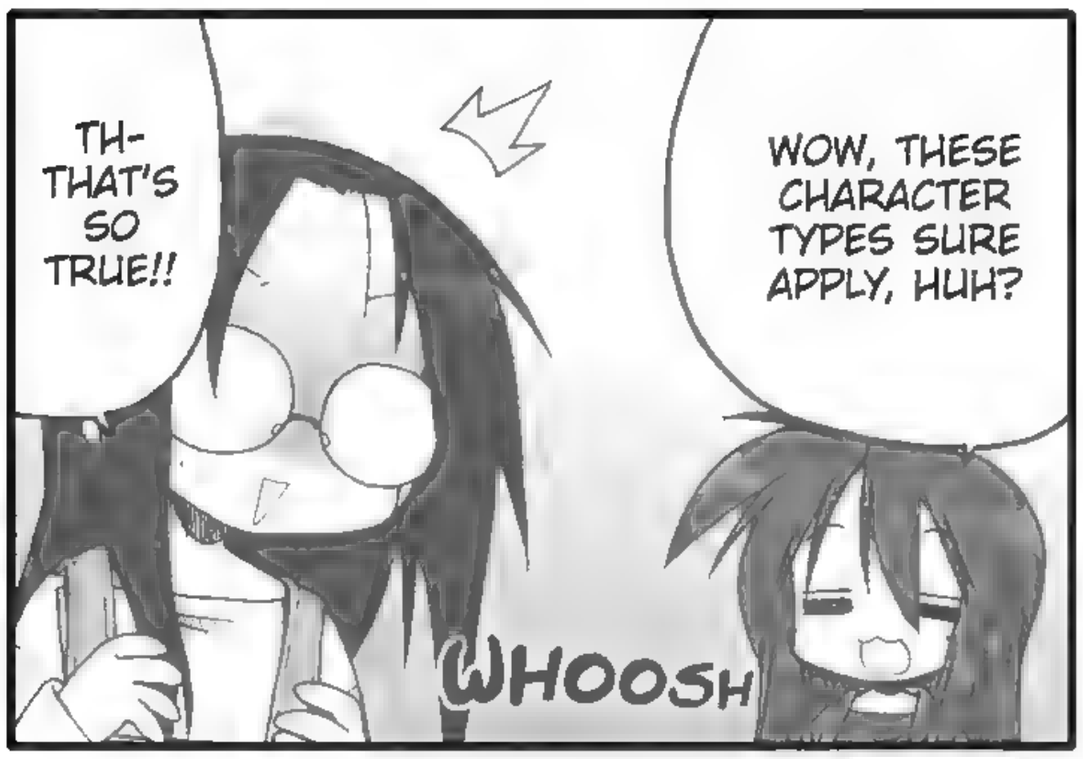

IF THIS IS TRUE, THEN WHAT KIND OF... WAIT, MAYBE IT REALLY IS THE MEANING THEY WANTED...
EH...? WAIT!! IS THAT SOME KIND OF ENGLISH SLANG OR SOMETHING?

Lucky☆Star

episode 184
moon and stars

● TYPE-MOON Ace, June 2008

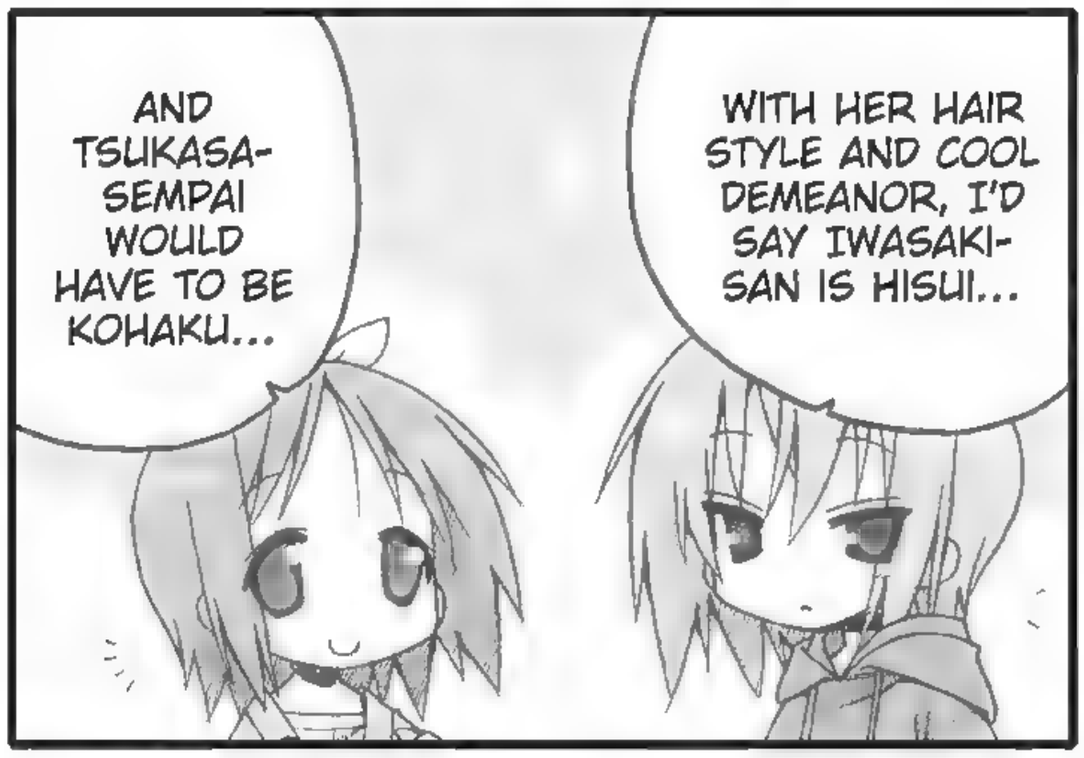
glasses



cooking is her specialty

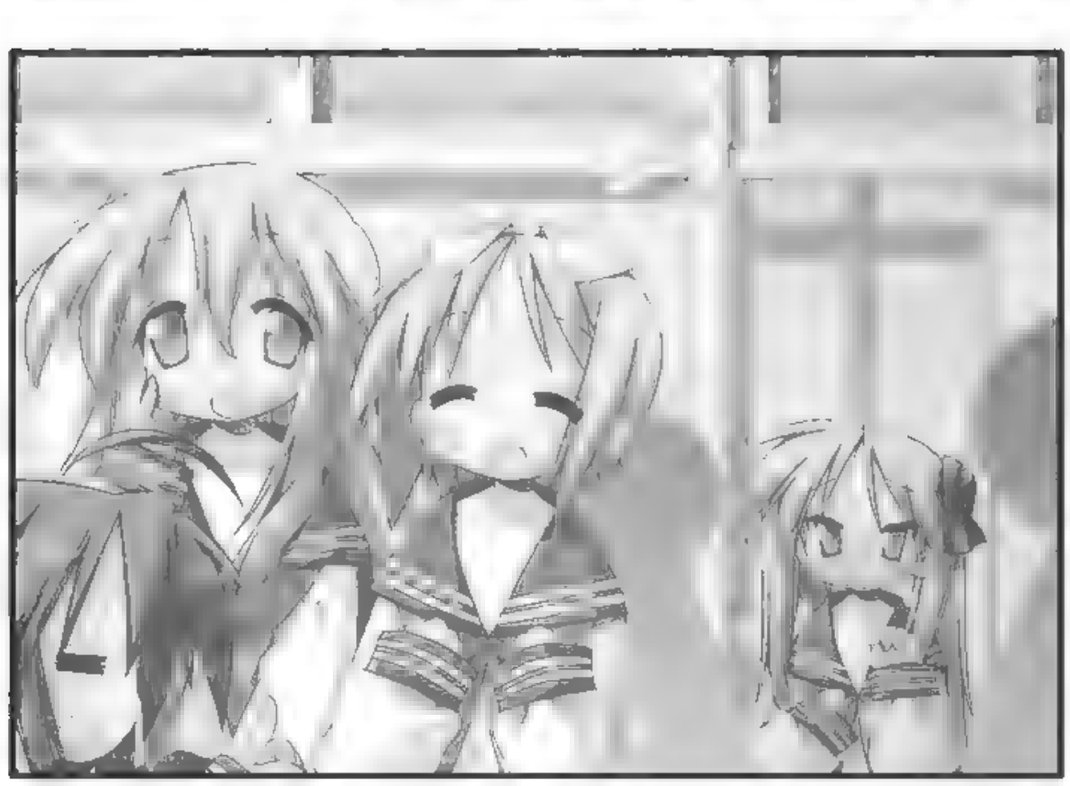
Who are you talking about?!
AH! I THINK I SEE WHAT YOU'RE GETTING AT.
Something about her eyes or personality.
SO A LITTLE WHILE AGO, I TRIED "TSUKI HIME," AND I COULDN'T HELP BUT THINK THAT KAGAMI WAS KIND OF AKIHA.

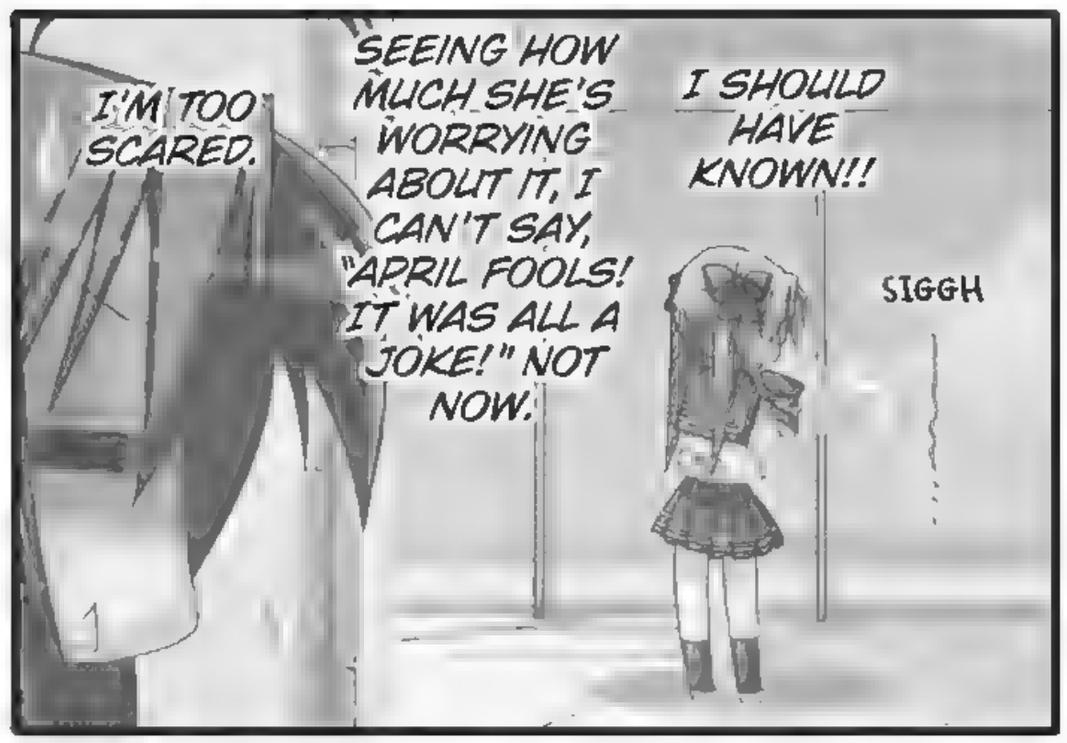
I think I'm quite a bit different, but...
EH? YOU THINK SO...?
...YOUR PERSONALITY, IZUMI-SEMPAI, IS MORE LIKE ARCUEID'S...
AND IF WE WERE TO GO FARTHER DOWN THAT ROAD...



People with similar problems

jussst kidding




I'M TOO SCARED.
SEEING HOW MUCH SHE'S WORRYING ABOUT IT, I CAN'T SAY, "APRIL FOOLS! IT WAS ALL A JOKE!" NOT NOW.
I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN!!
SIGGH

● From Lucky Star Autumn Festival 2007

special 1

Let's start Akira Nation!!

- Nakatani (A-tchan, Kuru-tchi)

A good student, but with something of an acid tongue. Her eyebrows come to a sharp point, but it isn't like she's actually angry at anybody.

- Oohara (Maa-chin)

A big-bodied but shy sports girl. A hard worker who is always ordered around by the other members.

- Akira Kogami

We present some more Akira 4-panel strips! ...This time too, she isn't doing anything especially idol-like though...

- Otonashi (Rin-chan)

A small body and a huge attitude. She's a mood maker and a trouble maker. Usually she's optimistic and energetic.

From Lucky Star Autumn Festival 2007

GLOO
OOOm
MM-MMM
Whoa! This time I did terrible too!
Test

AKIRA-CHAN! I BOUGHT YOUR PHOTO BOOK!
AKIRA

HM... I THOUGHT I'D GET OOHARA TO TEACH ME AFTER THIS.
AKI-CCHI!! YOURS IS COVERED IN RED AGAIN, HUH?!

OOHARA, YOU'RE REALLY A GREAT PERSON! UNLIKE THESE OTHER TWO!
Who have no intention of shelling out any money!
Hm.
Oh, you put out a book! I expect you to give me a signed copy!

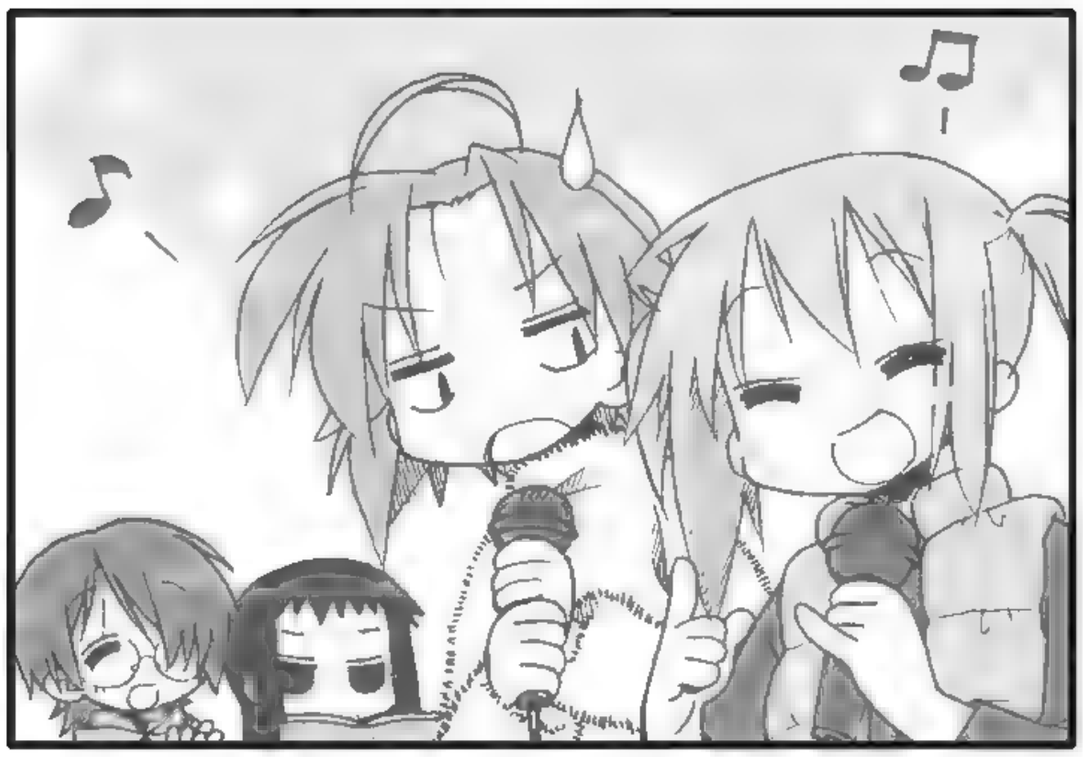
EH? IS THAT RIGHT?
MAA-CHIN'S NUTRITION IS ALL GOING INTO HER HEIGHT, I'M SURE.
Give me a little!
BUT MY GRADES ARE WORSE THAN YOURS, AKIRA-CHAN.
I don't think I can help.

UM... IT WAS GOOD, BUT IT SEEMED TO HAVE THESE ODD DIFFERENCES WITH THE REAL AKIRA-CHAN...
Sorry if that makes you sad.
OKAY, SO HOW WAS IT?

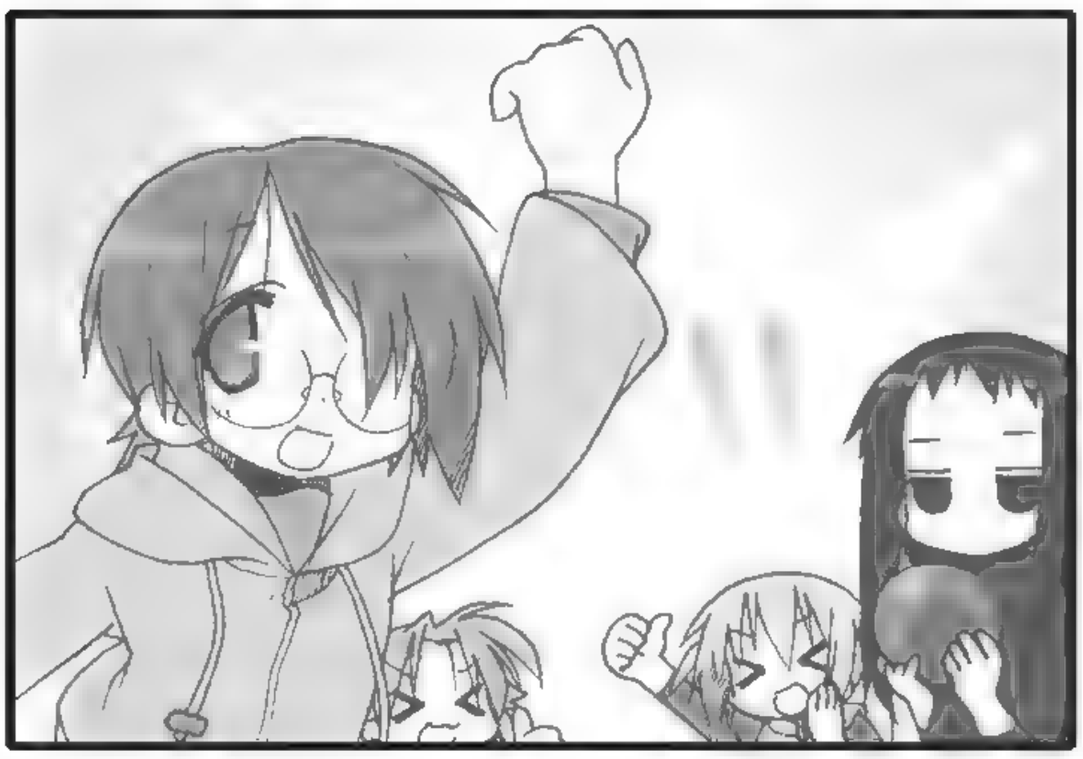
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
IT'S TRUE THAT EVEN WHEN YOU PUT GLASSES ON A FOOL, AT THAT INSTANT THEY LOOK MORE SERIOUS AND SMART.
BUT I THOUGHT, SINCE YOU WEAR GLASSES, THAT YOU'D BE SMARTER THAN AVERAGE...
And you're always smiling, Oohara.

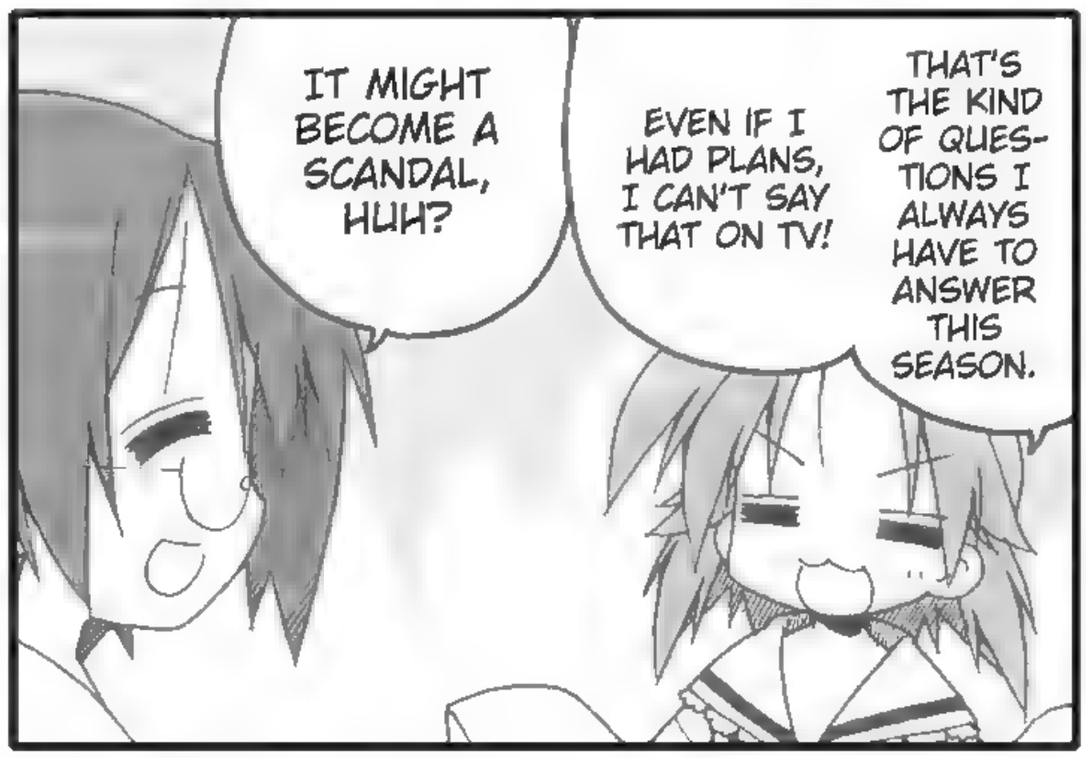
TH-THAT ISN'T WHAT I MEANT! I MEANT NORMALLY SHE'S SO MUCH CUTER IN PERSON, SO IT'S KIND OF A WASTED OPPORTUNITY.
WHAAT?!
IT'S TRUE! THE PICTURES AND INTERVIEW SEEM TO BE SOMEHOW...COOLER THAN THE REAL THING.
HEH HEHHH

place where you stand



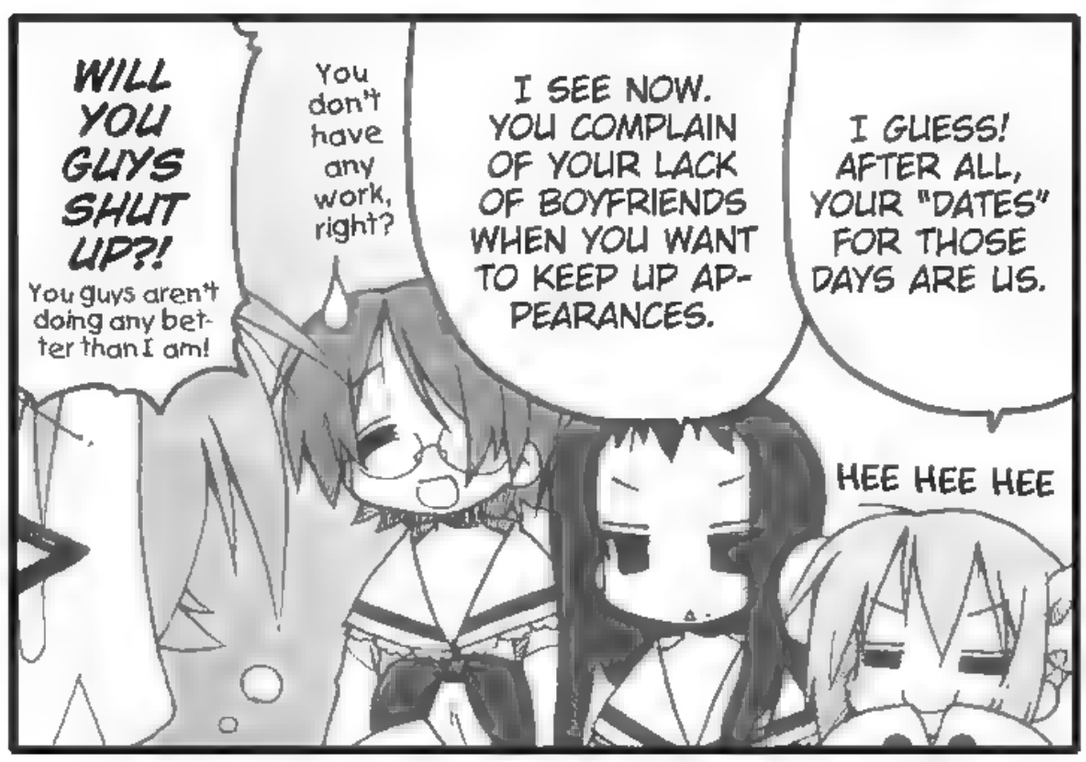
standard complaint




IT MIGHT BECOME A SCANDAL, HUH?
EVEN IF I HAD PLANS, I CAN'T SAY THAT ON TV!
THAT'S THE KIND OF QUES-TIONS I ALWAYS HAVE TO ANSWER THIS SEASON.

HEH HEH HEH... THEY ASKED ME THOSE SAME QUESTIONS AT AN EVENT A LITTLE WHILE AGO TOO.
I didn't know what to say!
YEAH, KIRA-CCHI ISN'T LIKELY TO DO THAT KIND OF THING!
Only a cer-tain type of celebrity gets mixed up in that.
Nya ha!

THESE KIND OF SMALL-SCALE FESTIVI-TIES LEAVE SOMETHING TO BE DE-SIRED AS A CELEBRITY.
It is fun, though.
IT'D BE SO COOL IF WE COULD ALL SPEND OUR NEW YEAR'S FESTIVITIES TOGETHER AGAIN NEXT YEAR, HUH?


WILL YOU GUYS SHUT UP?!
You guys aren't doing any bet-ter than I am!
You don't have any work, right?
I SEE NOW. YOU COMPLAIN OF YOUR LACK OF BOYFRIENDS WHEN YOU WANT TO KEEP UP AP-PEARANCES.
I GUESS! AFTER ALL, YOUR "DATES" FOR THOSE DAYS ARE US.
HEE HEE HEE

all okay

OHH! GREAT IDEA! LET'S GO! LET'S GO!

...AND I THOUGHT WE COULD ALL GO AGAIN TODAY!

AKIRA-CHAN! I WENT TO A PLACE WITH WONDERFUL ICE-CREAM RECENTLY...

AH, THEN I'LL GRACE YOU WITH MY PRES-ENCE.

KIRA-CCHI! I WAS THINKING OF EVERYBODY GOING OVER TO STAY AT MAA-CHIN'S PLACE DURING THE LONG VACATION NEXT MONTH...

A-chan! Your five-scoop ice-cream is incredible!

OH! SURE! I'LL GO!!

You finished yours already?

COME TO THINK OF IT, RINKO MENTIONED THAT SHE WANTED TO SEE THAT MOVIE ON SUNDAY.

Oh, that's right!

I'M EATING ICE-CREAM. LET'S NOT MAKE THE ATMOSPHERE ANY COLDER.

WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU ALONG, BUT KIRA-CCHI, WHEN DO YOU WORK EXACTLY?

As an idol..

nowadays' diary

THAT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT?

Didn't somebody have like a billion hits on their blog recently?

ALL OF THE IDOLS HAVE THEIR OWN BLOGS RECENTLY, HUH?

HMM... A BLOG? MAYBE I'LL DO IT AS PART OF MY SELF PROMOTION ...

AREN'T YOU GOING TO DO ONE OF THOSE, AKIRA-CHAN?

WHEN DID YOU START THINKING CUTE THOUGHTS LIKE THAT?

And it's wrong to lie so much!

'SUP! I SAW IT, KIRA-CCHI!

Nyaaa!

A FEW DAYS LATER...

NO, BLOGS ARE ACTUALLY MEANT TO BE READ, YOU KNOW.

OH, JUST SHUT UP! DON'T GO READING A PERSON'S DIARY LIKE THAT!

I MEAN, WHAT YOU SAID YESTER-DAY...

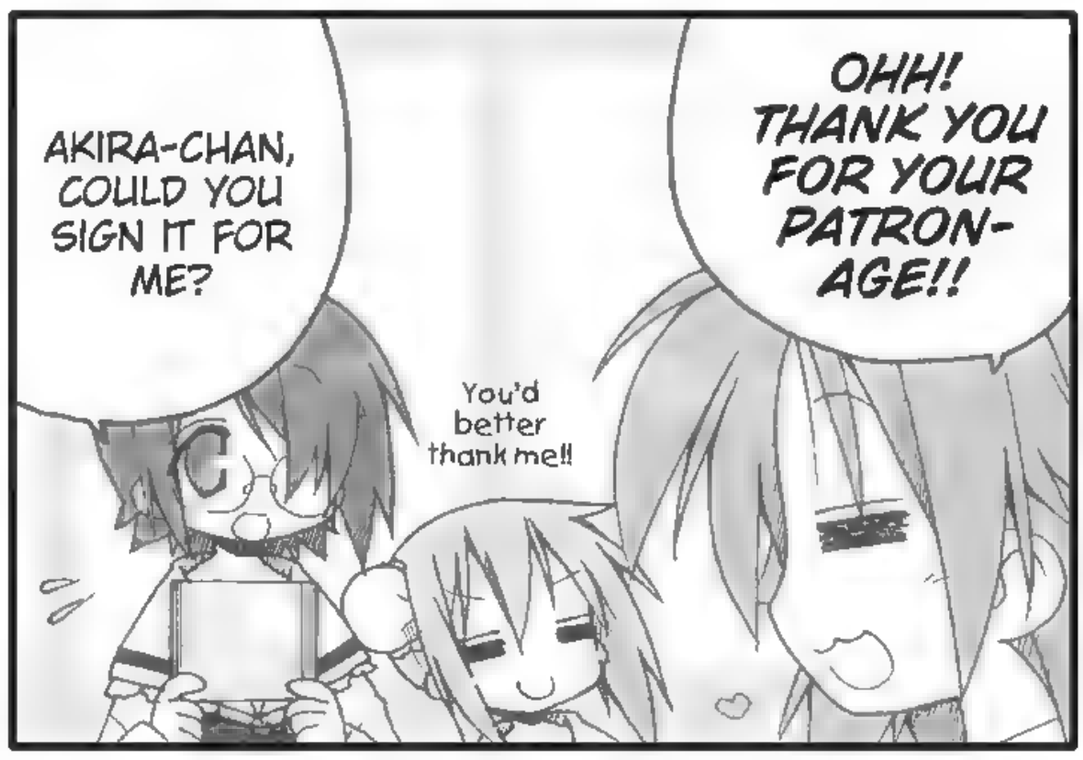
Haven't you ever heard the word "privacy"?!

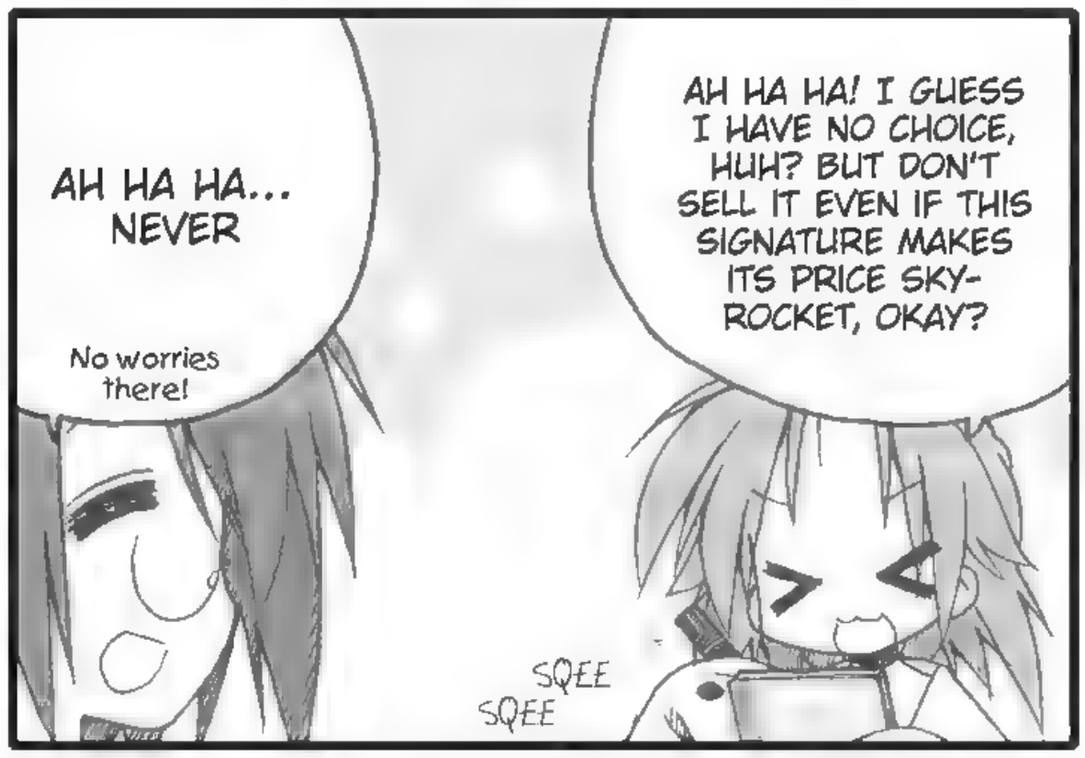
zero

CAUSE A SCANDAL, HUH? HMM... I SEE.
AH... UM... YOU KNOW! A LITTLE WHILE AGO, I HEARD A REPORT ABOUT HOW SOME IDOLS PURPOSELY CAUSED SCANDALS TO INCREASE THEIR POPULARITY.
On an entertainment news show.
That might be fun!

IF YOU DON'T HAVE THE NAME-RECOGNITION TO BEGIN WITH, CAUSING A SCANDAL IS MEANINGLESS, ISN'T IT?
Especially with Akira...
You're being naive!

rising suspicions



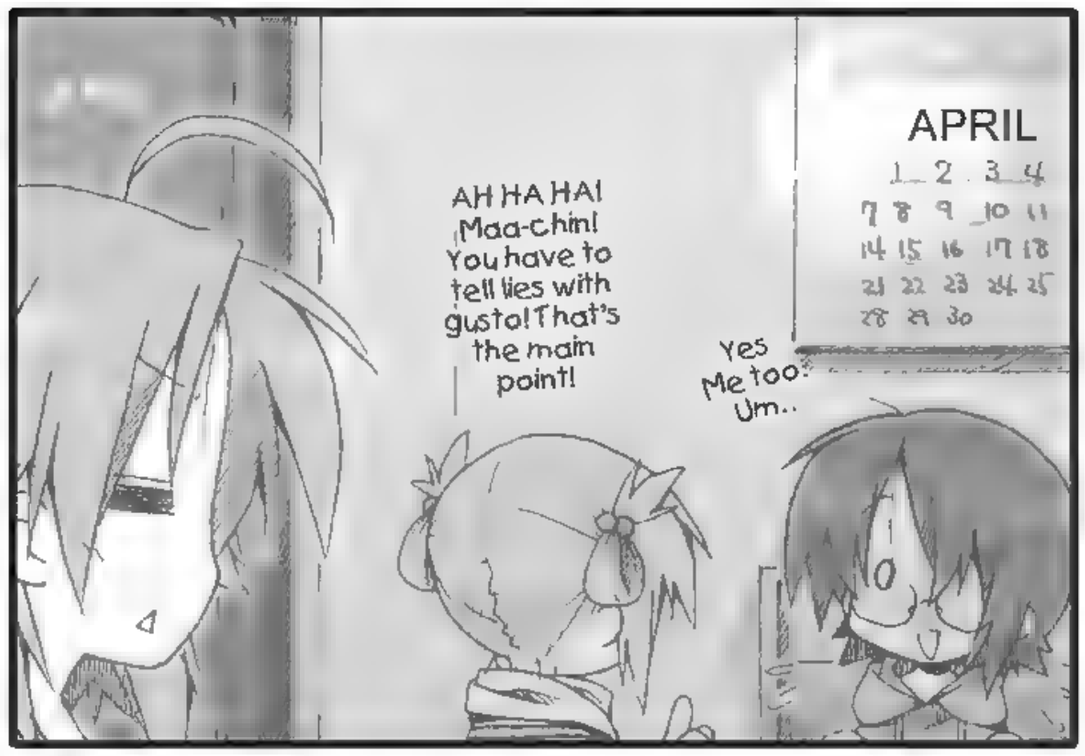

AH HA HA... NEVER
No worries there!
AH HA HA! I GUESS I HAVE NO CHOICE, HUH? BUT DON'T SELL IT EVEN IF THIS SIGNATURE MAKES ITS PRICE SKY-ROCKET, OKAY?
SQEE SQEE

Naw, not Oohara...
AM I READING TOO MUCH INTO THAT? DID WHAT SHE SAY MEAN THAT ITS PRICE WON'T EVER SKYROCKET? SHE MEANT SHE'D NEVER SELL IT, RIGHT?

BYE-NEEE!!

pack of wolves

ME TOO! MY FAMILY'S GOING TO BE MOVING AWAY, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME, KIRA-CCHI, I'LL STILL BE IN JAPAN.
HUH? STUDYING ABROAD? ARE YOU SERIOUS?
I'M SURE IT'S NICE FOR YOU. HOWEVER, I'M SORRY, BUT I WILL BE STUDYING OVERSEAS AND PROBABLY WON'T SEE IT.


APRIL
1 2 3 4
7 8 9 10 11
14 15 16 17 18
21 22 23 24 25
28 29 30
AH HA HA! Maa-chin! You have to tell lies with gusto! That's the main point!
Yes Me too! Um..

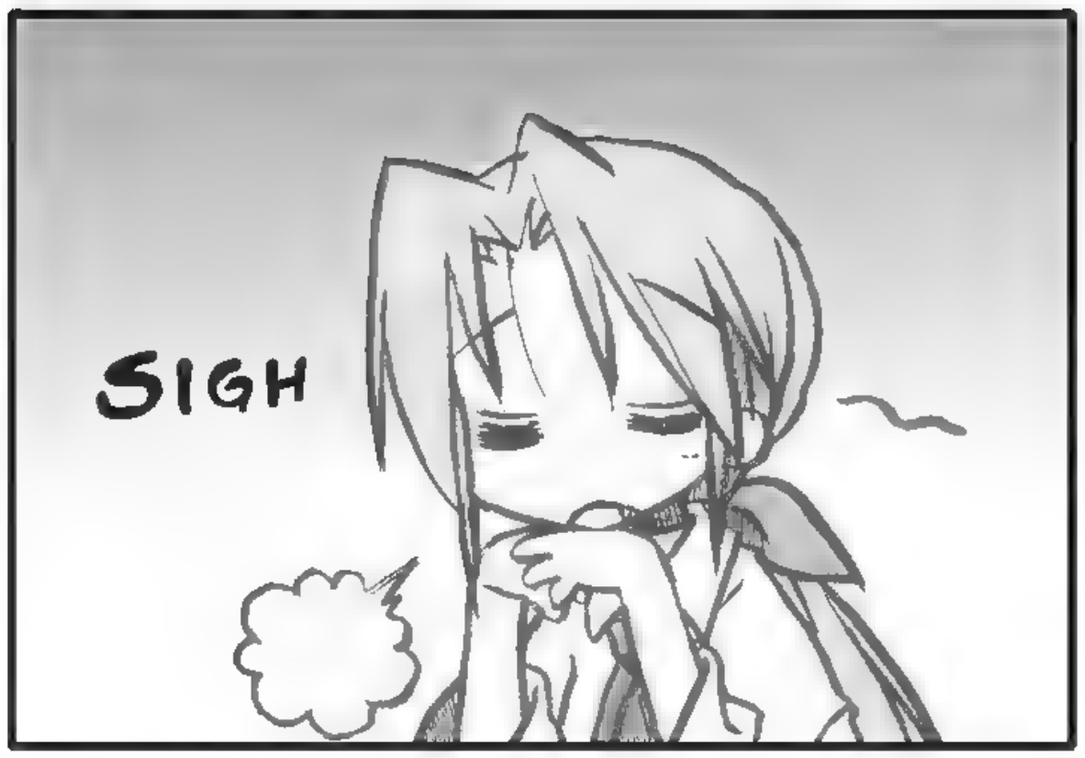
MY NEWS WASN'T A LIE, YOU KNOW.
UM, GUYS... COULD YOU LISTEN FOR A SECOND...?
I hate to interrupt when you're having so much fun, but...
Anyone can see right through the lies you guys tell.
Did it come out sounding like a lie...?

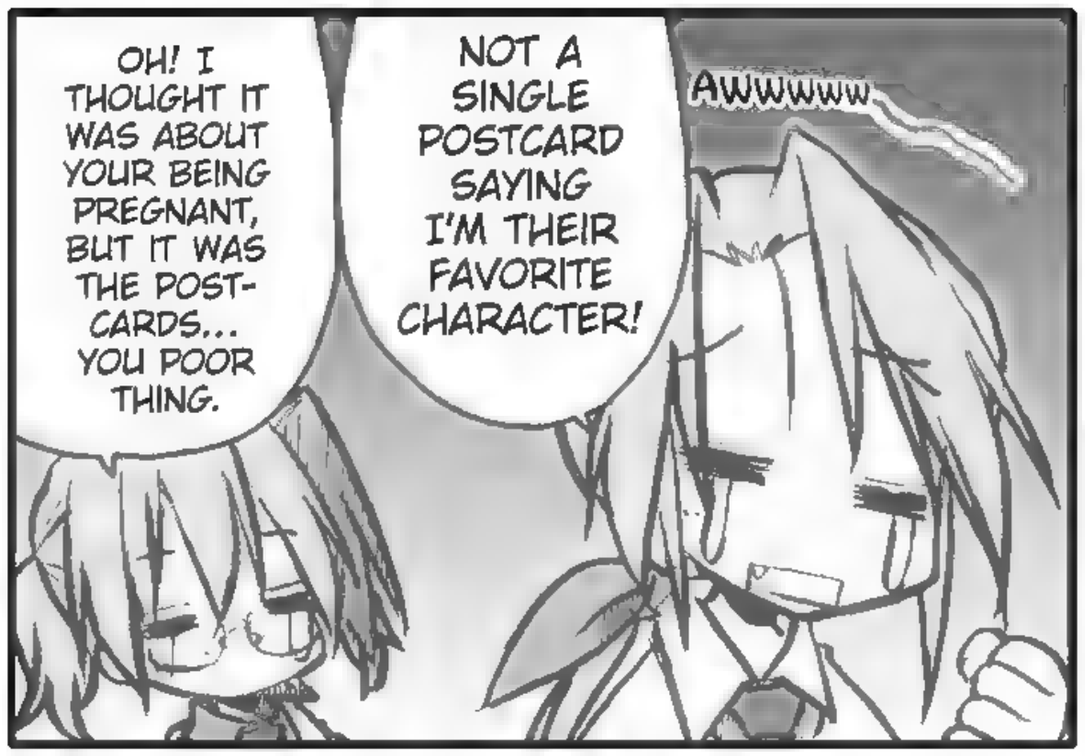
● Comp Ace, September 2008 Issue

special 2
Bonus

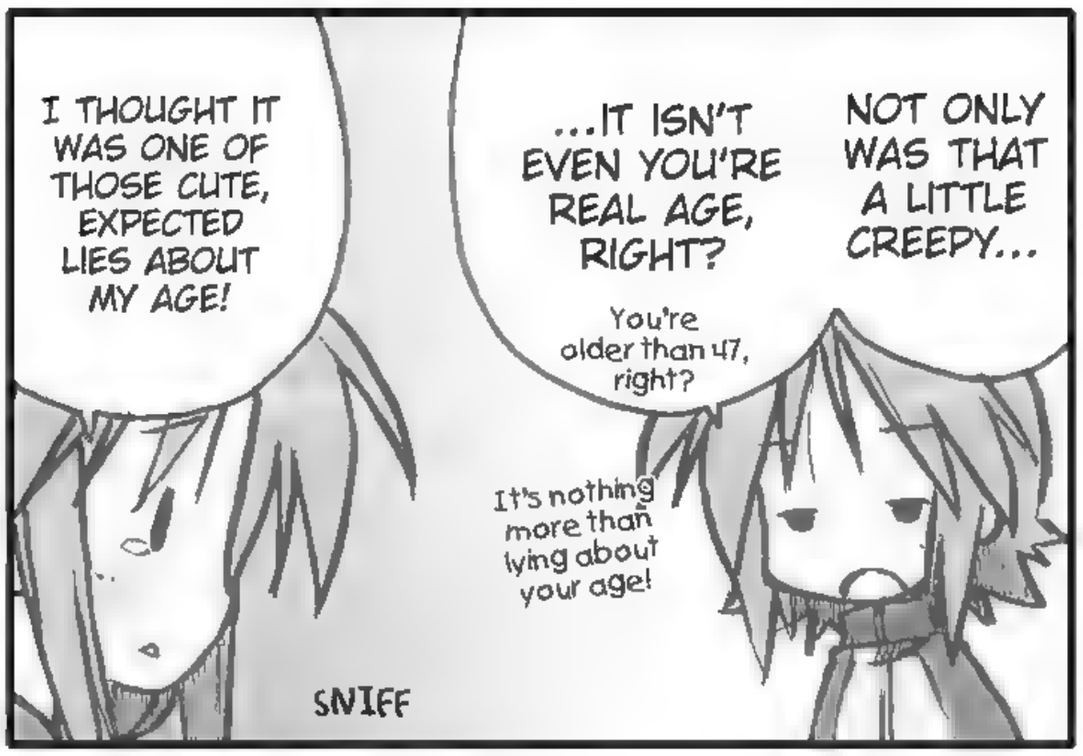
GOOD WORK, EVERYBODY...
YAAAWN...

the melancholy of nanako kuroi

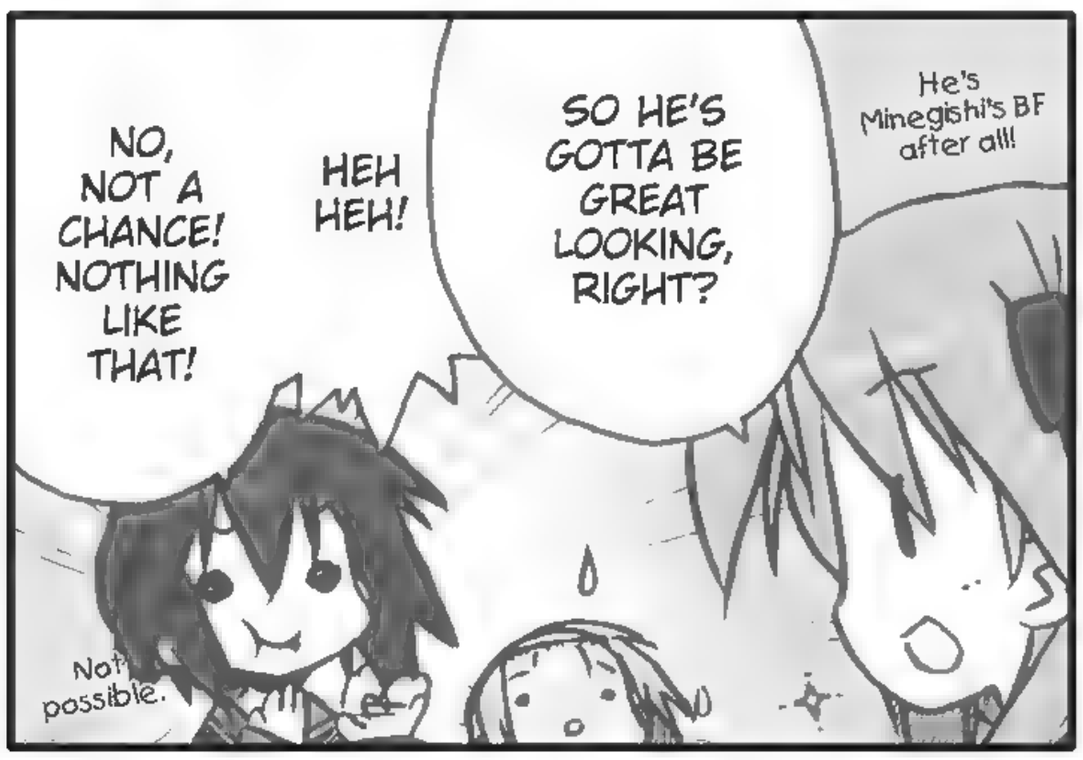



OH! I THOUGHT IT WAS ABOUT YOUR BEING PREGNANT, BUT IT WAS THE POST-CARDS... YOU POOR THING.
NOT A SINGLE POSTCARD SAYING I'M THEIR FAVORITE CHARACTER!
AWWWWW

the all-mighty phrase

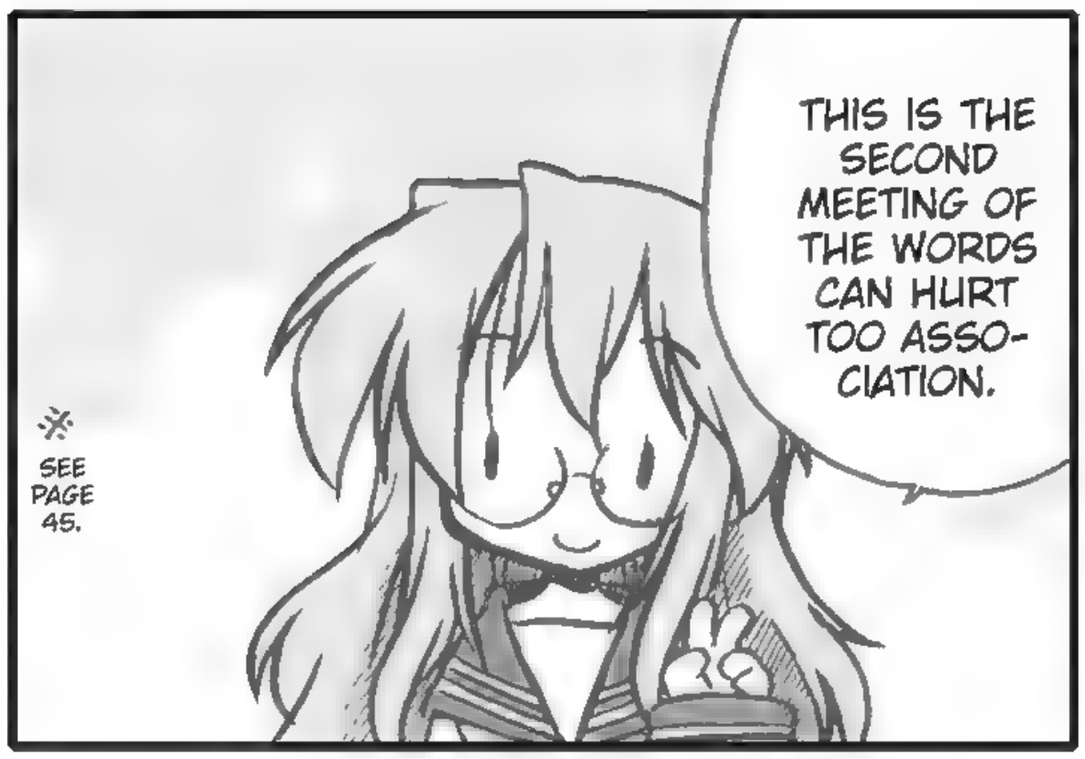

I THOUGHT IT WAS ONE OF THOSE CUTE, EXPECTED LIES ABOUT MY AGE!
...IT ISN'T EVEN YOU'RE REAL AGE, RIGHT?
You're older than 47, right?
NOT ONLY WAS THAT A LITTLE CREEPY...
It's nothing more than lying about your age!
SNIFF

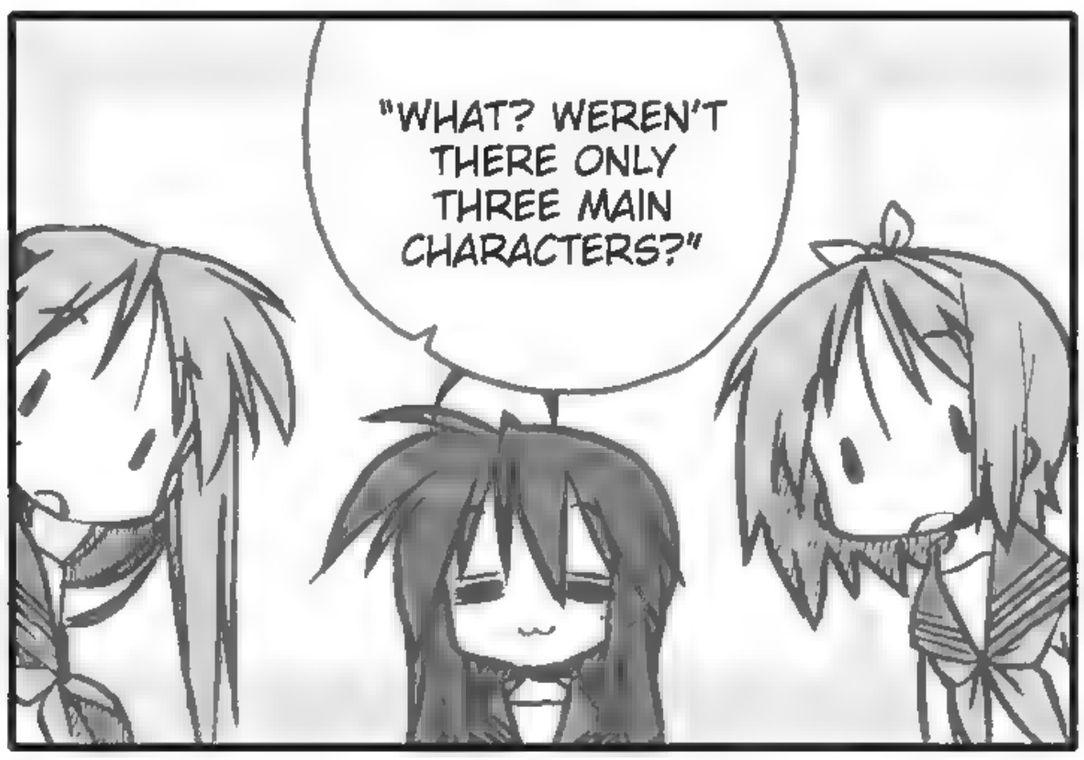
distance

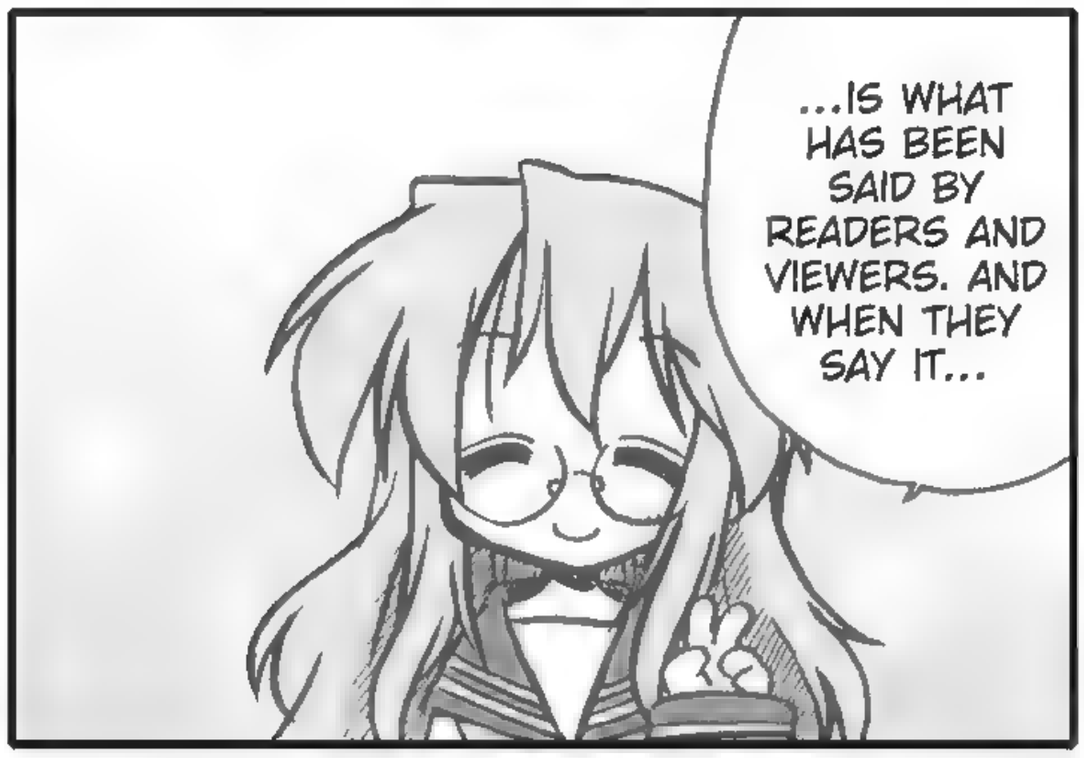


EHHH?! B-BUT IT'S HARD TO PRAISE MEMBERS OF YOUR OWN FAMILY IN PUBLIC, RIGHT?
THAT'S A TERRIBLE THING TO SAY! HE HAS SO MANY GOOD POINTS!
How dare she say things like that about a girl's boy-friend?
There, there!

salt

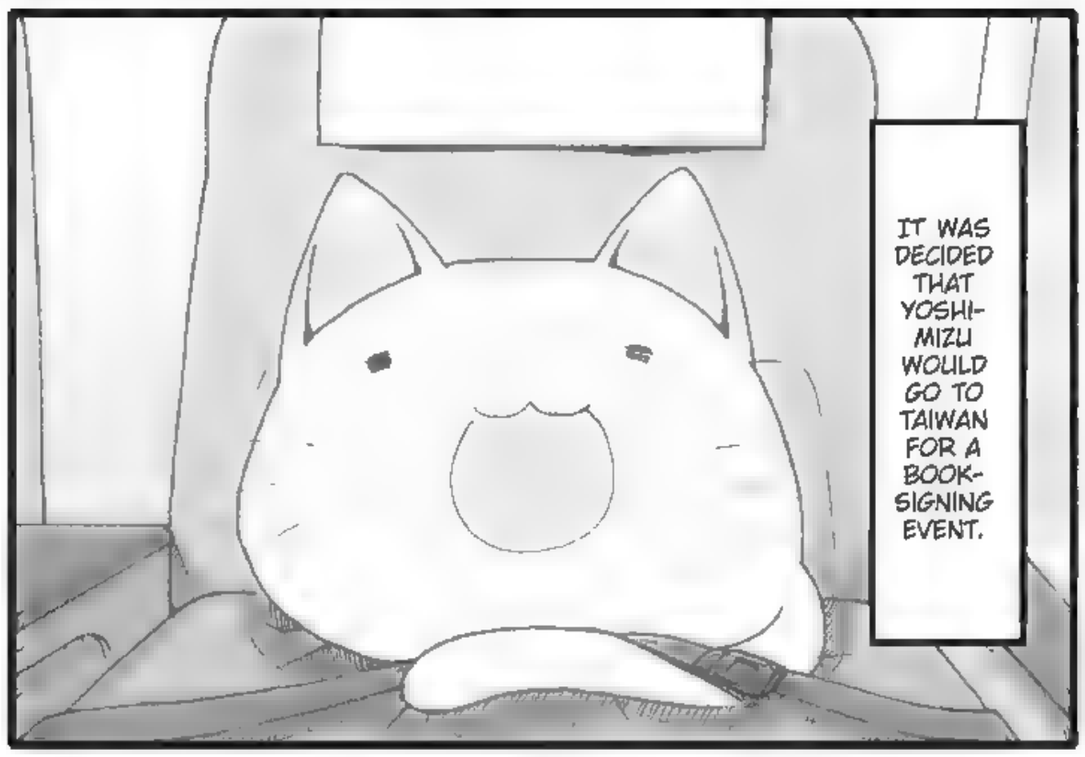


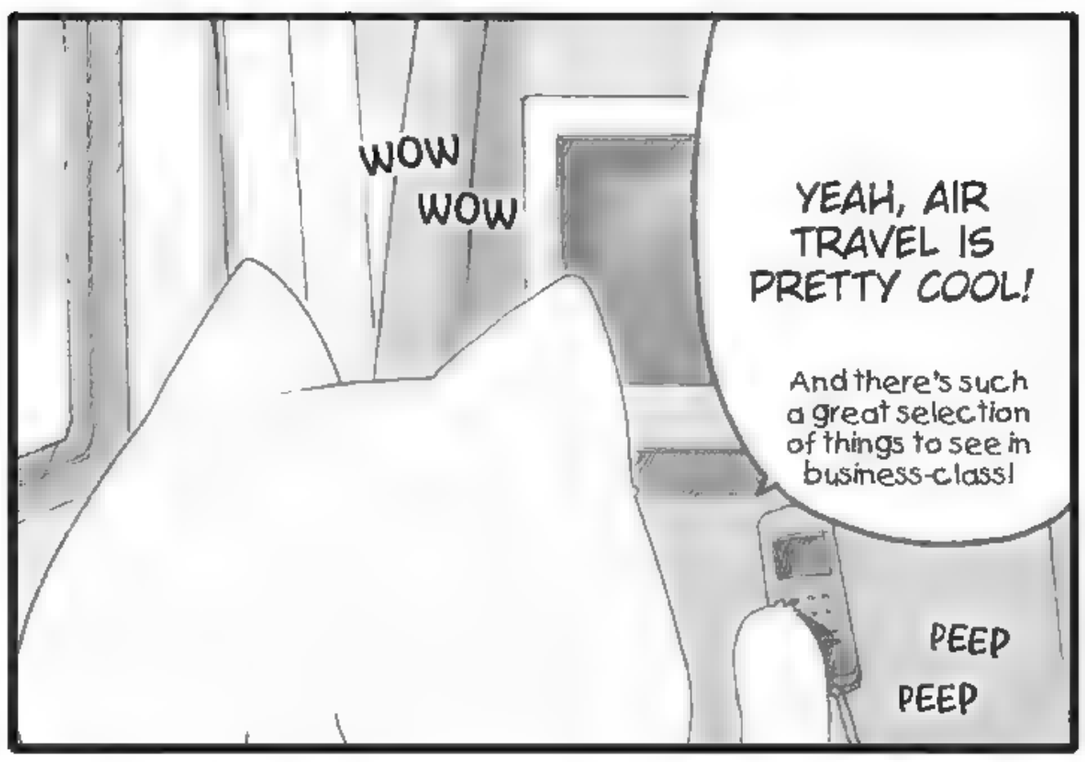




I-IT'S ALL RIGHT!! SEE? THERE ARE ALL FOUR OF US RIGHT HERE!
"Economic..."?
...I REALIZE THAT, YES. ECONOMIC EFFECTIVENESS IS AN IMPORTANT WORD IN TODAY'S WORLD.

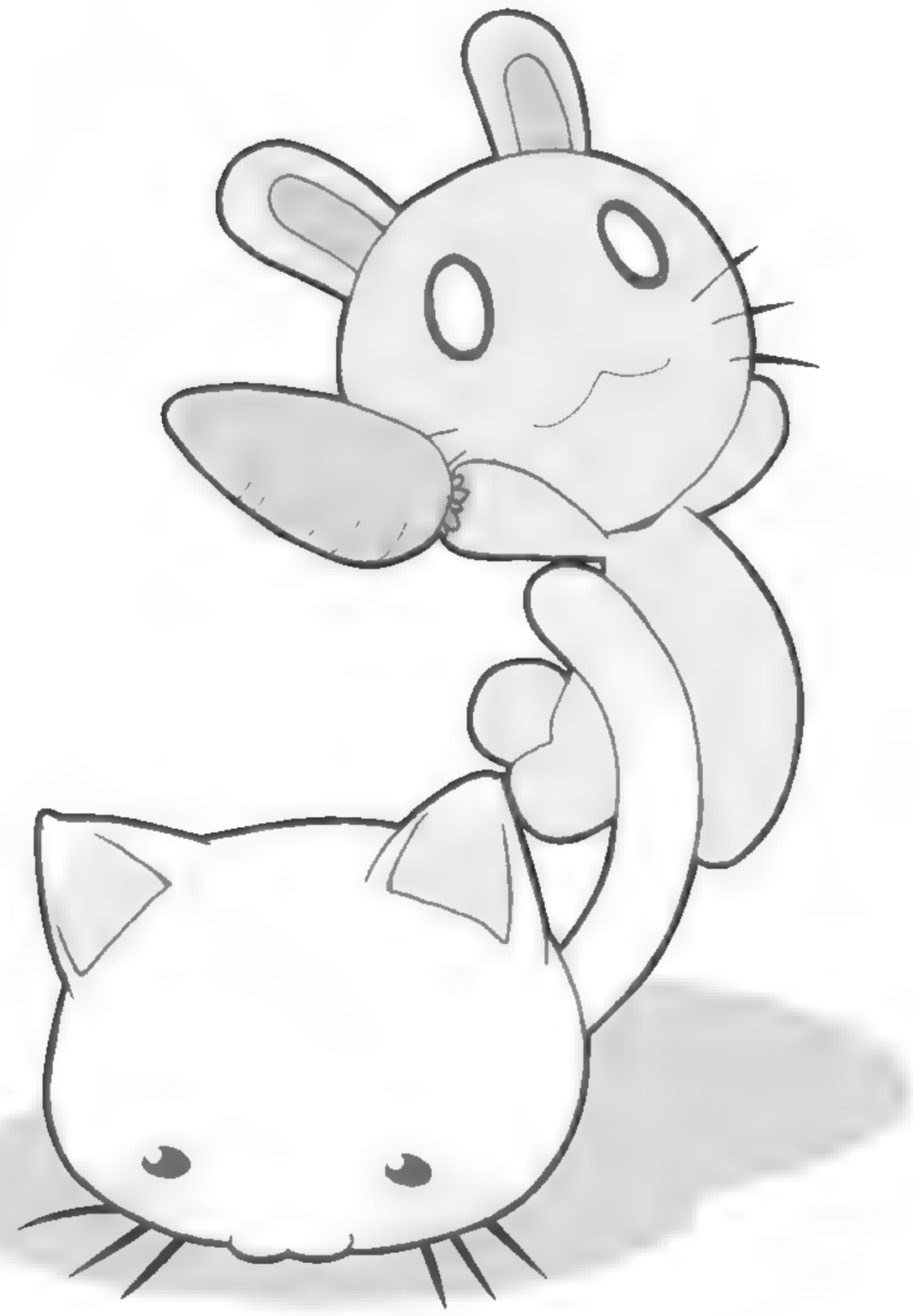
day of departure





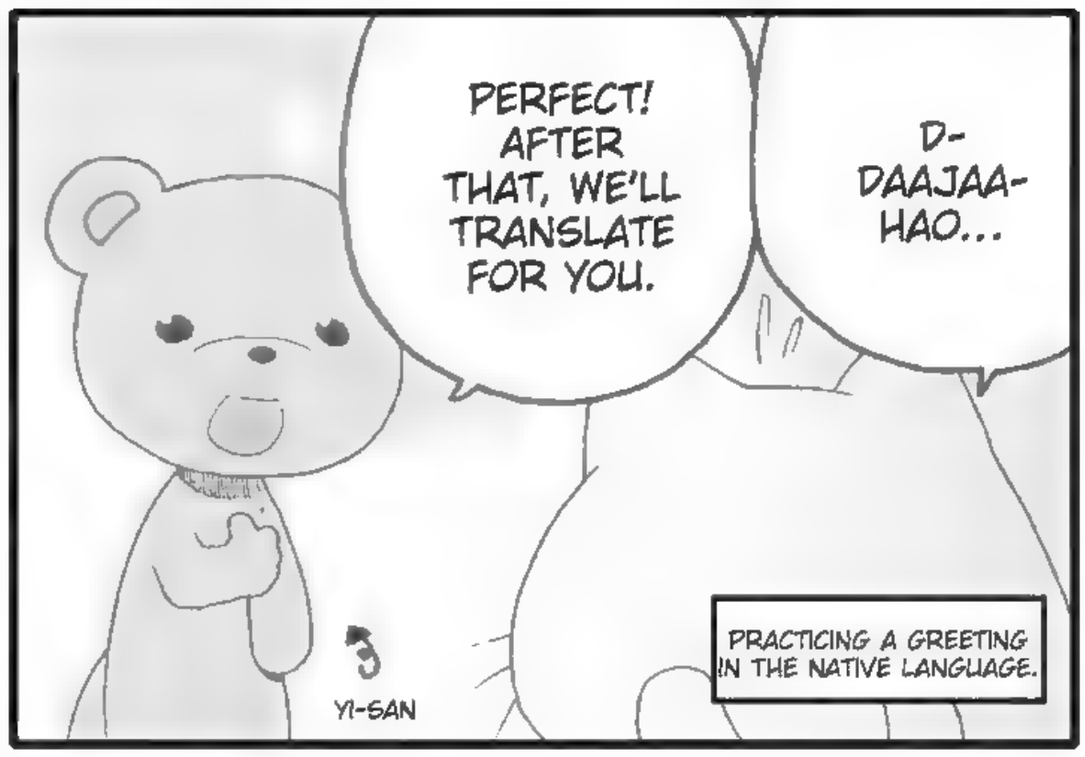
GLOOOOM
EH? N-NO I DIDN'T HEAR WHAT YOU JUST SAID! I'M SORRY! I'M SO SORRY!
EDITOR K-SAN WHO DIDN'T SLEEP SINCE YOSHIMIZU DIDN'T FINISH THE PAGES UNTIL THAT MORNING, AND YET K-SAN STILL HAD TO DO PREP-WORK BEFORE SENDING THEM TO THE PRINTER.

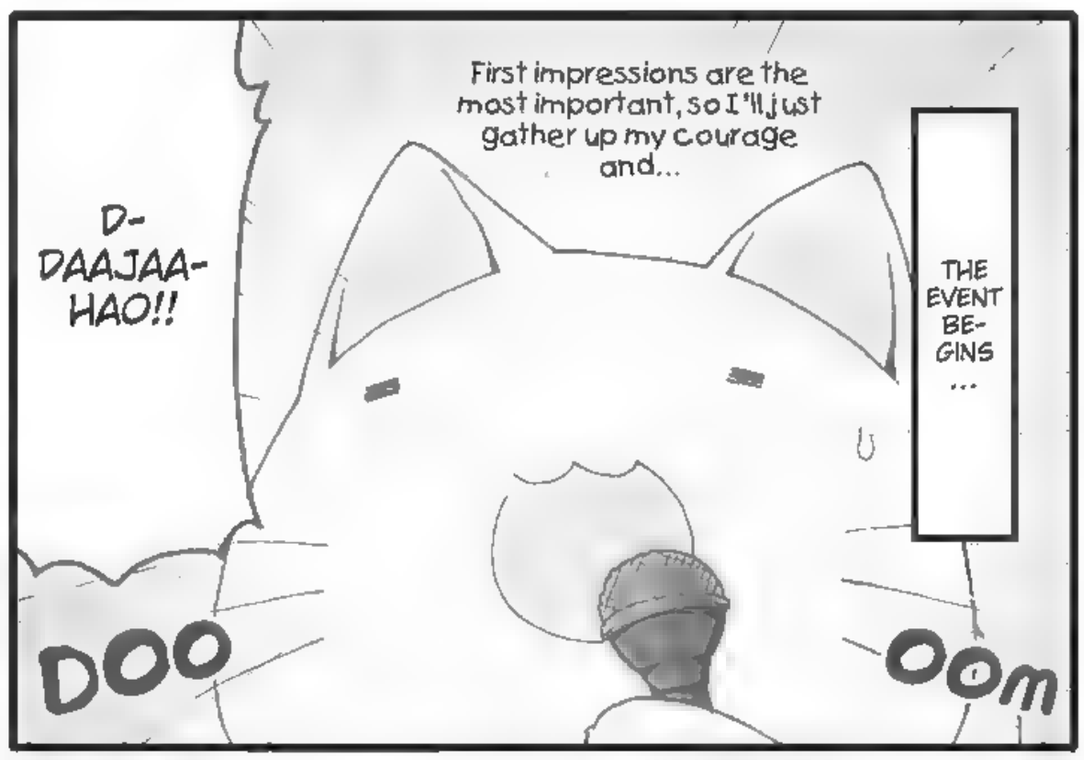
THE GOOD-CHILDREN'S' BUNNY-CAT THEATER!

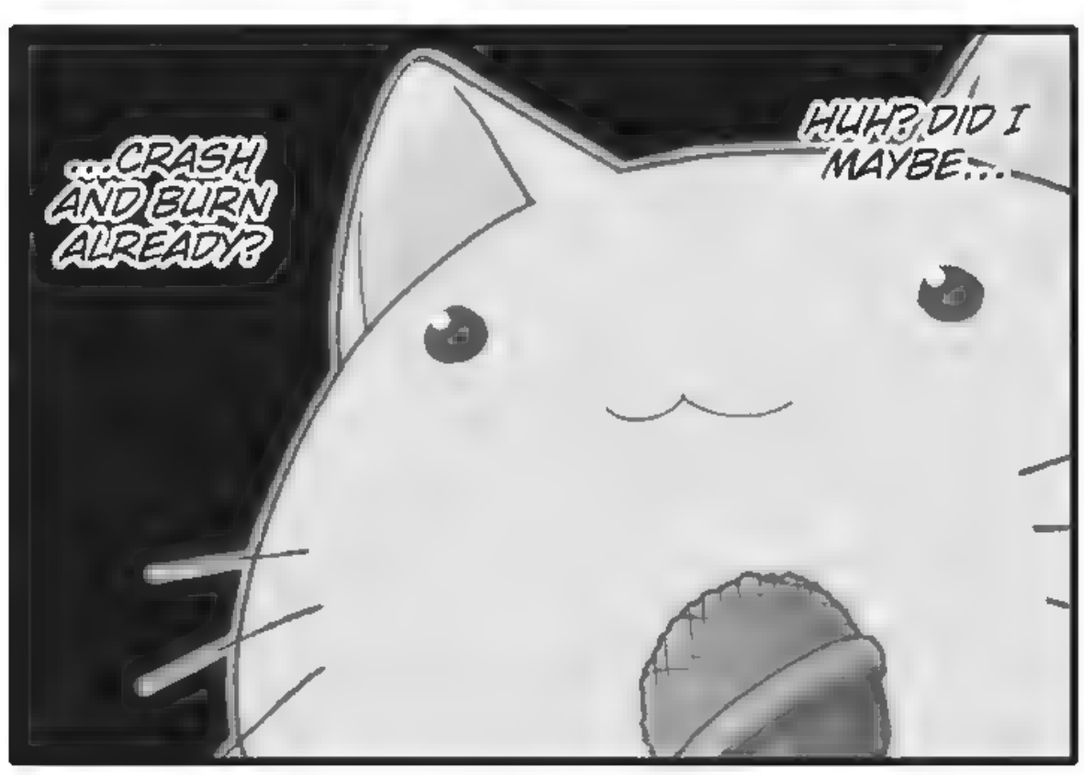


when in trouble

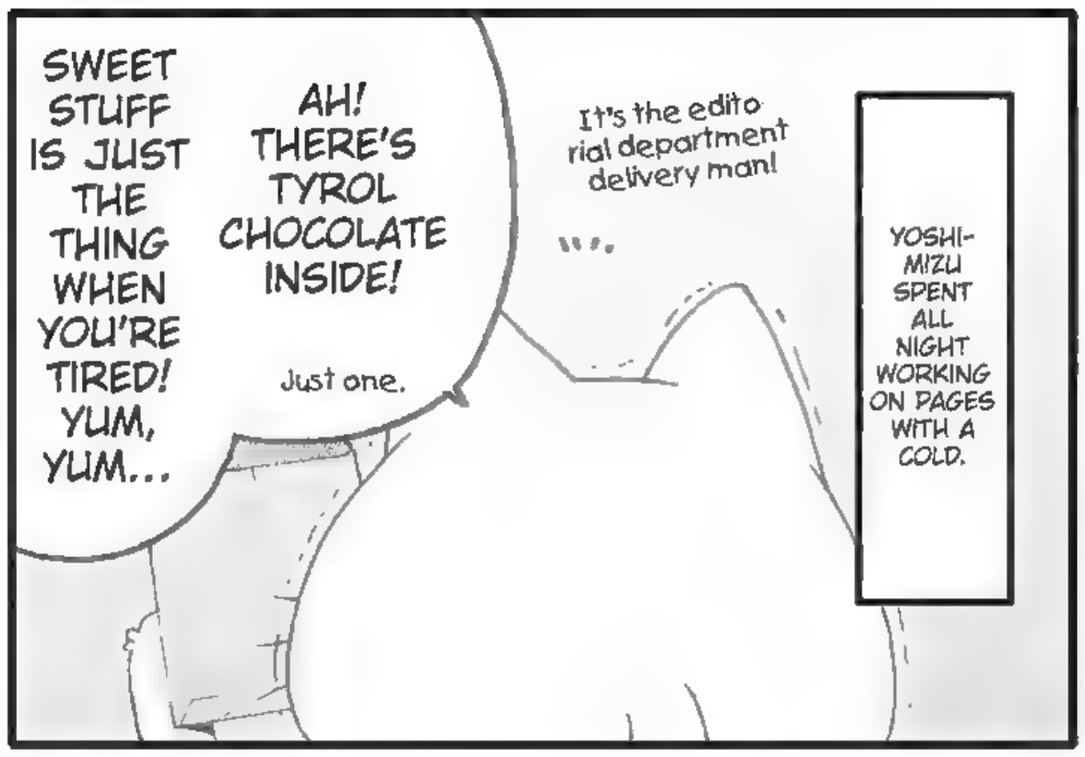
the first word







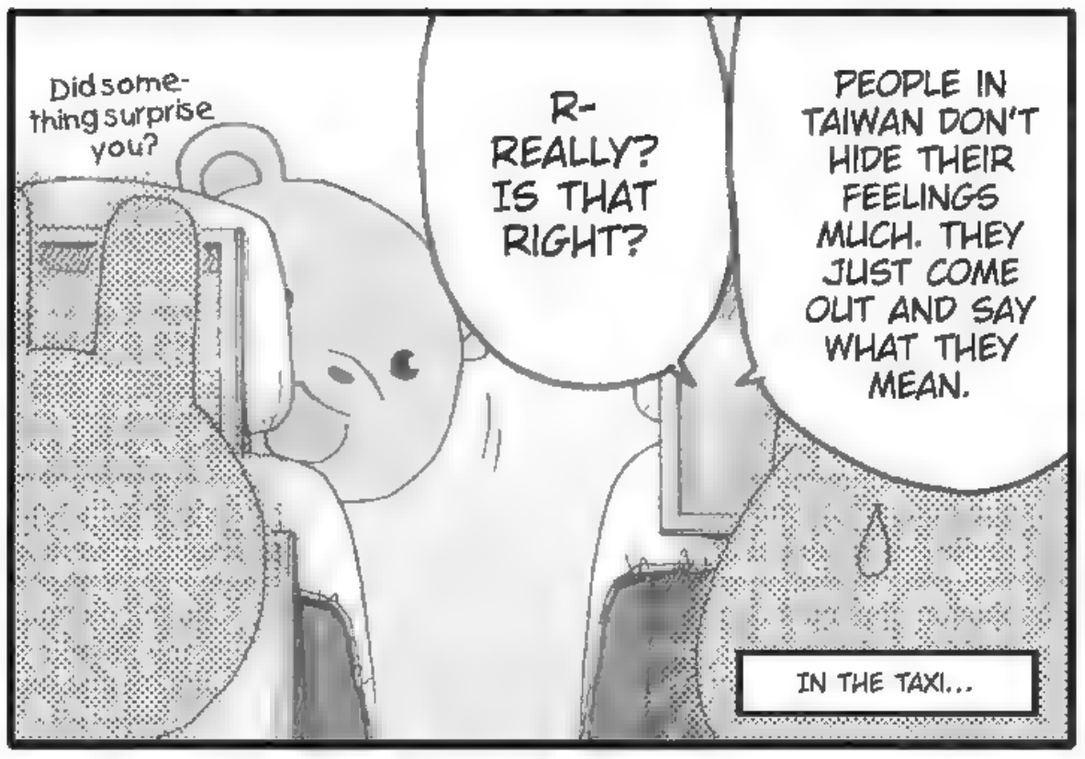
huge shock

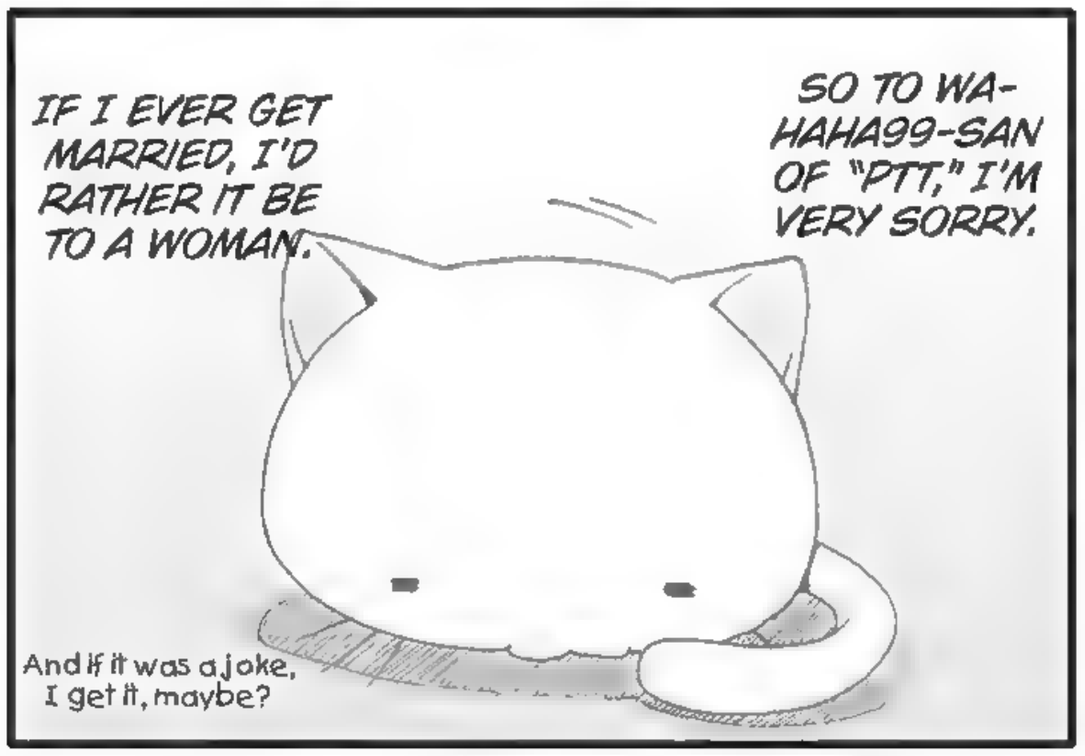

SWEET STUFF IS JUST THE THING WHEN YOU'RE TIRED! YUM, YUM...
AH! THERE'S TYROL CHOCOLATE INSIDE!
Just one.
It's the edito rial department delivery man!
...
YOSHI-MIZU SPENT ALL NIGHT WORKING ON PAGES WITH A COLD.

That was from a little while back during a taping. I got it from Kato-san.
Oh, the chocolate got to you?
EMIRI KATO-SAN, SHE PLAYS KAGAMI HIIRAGI.

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE I GAVE CHOCOLATE TO, YOU KNOW.
So don't get any ideas!
Mental image
I WENT AND ATE IT...WITH-OUT THINKING A THING OF IT! IT'S CHOCO-LATE FROM THE REAL KAGAMI, AND I WENT AND ATE IT!!

probably a joke


Did some-thing surprise you?
R-REALLY? IS THAT RIGHT?
PEOPLE IN TAIWAN DON'T HIDE THEIR FEELINGS MUCH. THEY JUST COME OUT AND SAY WHAT THEY MEAN.
IN THE TAXI...



taiwan chapter -- the end

• My very thankful feelings 6

HELLO!

THIS IS YOSHIMIZU.
THIS MAKES MY SIXTH AFTERWORD.
ACTUALLY I SHOULD BE USED TO THIS AND GETTING GOOD AT IT BY NOW, BUT FOR SOME REASON, I CAN'T SEEM TO MAKE ANY PROGRESS..... ¡

MAYBE THAT'S WHY I ONLY SEEM ABLE TO USE THIS PAGE TO THANK AND APOLOGIZE TO PEOPLE THAT NEED THANKING AND APOLOGIZING TO.

I'D LIKE TO BE ABLE TO ADVANCE BY NEXT TIME. THEN MAYBE I'LL BE ABLE TO HAVE ENOUGH SPACE IN MY SCHEDULE TO USE THIS SPACE TO CHAT A BIT.

TO EVERYONE CONCERNED, I'M SORRY THAT I'M SO MUCH TROUBLE EVERY TIME!

AND TO EVERYONE, STARTING WITH THE READERS, I WANT TO THANK THE MANY, MANY OF YOU CHEERING ME ON. I GIVE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF GRATITUDE TO ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE ALLOWED ME TO GET AS FAR AS VOLUME 6.

• EDITOR/PRODUCER:

KATO-SAN

• COLORING ASSISTANT:

MIKOTO-KUN

• SPECIAL THANKS:

TADA-SAN KADOTANI-SAN ASHIKUBO-SAN
KOYAMA-SAN USUKI-SAN HASHIMOTO-SAN
YAMADA-SAN YAMAGUCHI-SAN CHIBA-SAN
MUKUDORI-KUN AKKII-KUN

AND TO ALL OF YOU WHO READ THIS...

by 美水かがみ

YOSHIMIZU KAGAMI

TRANSLATOR NOTES

P.4 NEAR THE PIN THIS IS A REFERENCE TO GOLF. IT'S USED WHEN A GOLFER GETS THE BALL NEAR THE PIN (THE FLAGGED STICK THAT MARKS THE HOLE AND IS SET IN IT).

P.7 SOMEN WITH MIKAN SOMEN IS A KIND OF NOODLE THAT IS OFTEN SERVED COLD ON HOT SUMMER DAYS. THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO SERVE IT, BUT ONE WAY IS TO SERVE IT IN COLD WATER WITH MIKAN (SEE THE NOTE BELOW) FLOATING IN THE WATER WITH IT. USUALLY ONLY A FEW MIKAN ARE PLACED IN WITH THE SOMEN (TO ADD COLOR TO THE DISH), AND THE MIKAN HAVE A TENDENCY TO GET EATEN QUICKLY.

P.22 SOMEONE WILL... ALTHOUGH NANAKO MAY BE REFERRING TO FRIENDS AS WELL AS POTENTIAL BOYFRIENDS, CHRISTMAS IS KNOWN AS A DATE NIGHT, AND ODDS ARE SHE'S WAITING FOR SOMEBODY TO CALL TO ASK HER FOR A DATE.

P.30 NIKU-MAN MANJU IS A CHINESE DIM-SUM-STYLE PORK BUN. IN JAPAN, THESE BUNS CAN BE VERY BIG, AND A HOT, STEAMY BUN ON A COLD DAY IS A TREAT.

P. 34 MIKAN WINTER IS WHEN MOST OF THE SMALL, ORANGE-LIKE CITRUS FRUIT, MIKAN, ARE SOLD. KOTATSU ARE LOW TABLES WITH HEATERS AND FUTON QUILT-LIKE COVERINGS (THAT GO BETWEEN THE TABLE FRAME AND TABLE TOP) SO THAT ONE'S LEGS ARE WARMED WHEN SITTING AT THE TABLE. THE CLASSIC IDEA OF A KOTATSU IN WINTER IS WITH A BOWL OF MIKAN SITTING ON IT, SO THAT ONE CAN IDLY EAT MIKAN WHILE WATCHING TV.

P.35 GIRI-CHOCOLATE THE JAPANESE WORD "GIRI" MEANS "DUTY." ON VALENTINE'S DAY, WHEN WOMEN GIVE MEN CHOCOLATE (ACCORDING TO JAPANESE TRADITION), WOMEN ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO GIVE CHOCOLATE TO THEIR MALE BOSSES AND OTHER MEN ON WHOM THEY DEPEND OR WANT GOOD BUSINESS RELATIONS. THIS IS CALLED "GIRI" CHOCOLATE SINCE THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO SENSE OF ROMANCE IN THE GIFT.

P.37 SETSUBUN A FESTIVAL HELD IN EARLY FEBRUARY WITH TRADITIONS SUCH AS EATING ROLLED SUSHI WHILE FACING A SPECIFIC COMPASS DIRECTION, AND THROWING DRIED BEANS OUT OF ONE'S HOUSE AT A PERSON (USUALLY THE FAMILY'S FATHER) IN AN ONI (OGRE-LIKE) MASK. ALTHOUGH THE SPELLING OF "SEPPUN" (MEANING "KISS") IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM SETSUBUN IN OUR LETTERS, IN JAPANESE LETTERS, THEY ARE SPELLED EXTREMELY SIMILARLY.

P.41 LANGUAGE THIS STRIP WAS ORIGINALLY CALLED, "JAPANESE LANGUAGE," BUT SINCE WHAT THE MAN IS SAYING WORKS ALMOST EXACTLY THE SAME IN ENGLISH AS IN JAPANESE, IT DIDN'T REALLY MAKE SENSE TO IMPLY BY THE TITLE THAT THIS IS SOMETHING DISTINCTLY JAPANESE.

P.48 DIZZY IN THE BATH WHEN ONE SITS IN THE VERY HOT JAPANESE BATH FOR A LONG TIME, ONE TENDS TO GET SOMEWHAT DIZZY FROM OVEREXPOSURE TO THE HEAT. STAYING IN THE BATH UNTIL ONE GETS DIZZY IS SORT OF JAPANESE SHORTHAND FOR THE CONCEPT OF "OVERDOING" A GOOD THING.

P.57 AI-CHAN THIS AI-CHAN PROBABLY REFERS TO AI FUKUHARA, A JAPANESE TABLE-TENNIS CHAMPION WHO WAS ONE OF THE FEW FOREIGN PLAYERS TO EVER BE RECRUITED INTO THE CHINESE TABLE-TENNIS LEAGUES. JAPAN FOLLOWED HER MATCHES CLOSELY.

P.60 JOHNNY TOMOHIRO (JOHNNY) KUROKI USED TO BE A POPULAR PITCHER FOR THE LOTTE MARINES, AND IS NOW RETIRED FROM BASEBALL AND DOING CHARITY WORK. HIS NAME COMES FROM JOHNNY WALKER BLACK WHISKY (THE JAPANESE WORD FOR "BLACK" IS "KURO," THE SAME AS THE FIRST CHARACTER OF HIS FAMILY NAME). HE WAS AN ACCOMPLISHED PITCHER WHO REPRESENTED JAPAN IN THE SYDNEY OLYMPICS.

P.75 BISON WHEN STREET FIGHTER 2 WAS LOCALIZED FROM THE JAPANESE VERSION TO THE AMERICAN VERSION, THE NAMES WERE SWAPPED BETWEEN THE FINAL BOSS (VEGA IN THE JAPANESE AND M. BISON IN THE ENGLISH) AND THE MIKE TYSON PARODY CHARACTER WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY NAMED M. BISON. SO M. BISON IN THE JAPANESE VERSION LOOKED A LOT LIKE MIKE TYSON.

P.80 EAR CLEANING ONE OF THE CLICHÉ IMAGES OF JAPANESE WEDDED BLISS IS THE HUSBAND LYING IN THE WIFE'S LAP GETTING HIS EARS CLEANED WITH A LITTLE WOODEN STICK THAT HAS A PUFF-BALL AT ONE END.

P.82 FINAL ATTENTION IN SOME SCHOOLS, WHENEVER A TEACHER ENTERS THE ROOM, THE CLASS REPRESENTATIVE CALLS THE CLASS TO ATTENTION BY SAYING, "ATTENTION! BOW!" THIS CAN BE DONE AT THE BEGINNING OR END OF THE CLASS OR BOTH. SOME SCHOOLS SKIP THIS STEP.

P.101 PONZU PONZU IS A SAUCE MADE WITH MIRIN, VINEGAR, SEAWEED AND BONITO, ALL FLAVORED WITH JUICE OF YUZU, A CITRUS FRUIT. IT IS USED IN MANY WAYS, BUT ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR IS AS A DIPPING SAUCE FOR NABE, A COMMUNAL DISH OF BOILED MEATS AND VEGGIES.

P.108 PK THE GAMERS PK IS "PLAYER KILLING" IN MULTIPLAYER GAMES. IT'S USED WHEN PLAYER CHARACTER KILLS ANOTHER PLAYER'S CHARACTER. THE "SPORTS" PK IS THE "PENALTY KICK" IN SOCCER.

P.109 ARU IN ANIME AND MANGA, WHEN A CREATOR WANTS TO CONVEY THAT A CHARACTER IS CHINESE AND CAN'T SPEAK JAPANESE VERY WELL, THEY USUALLY STICK "ARU" ONTO THE END OF THE CHARACTER'S SENTENCE. THIS IS MUCH LIKE THE STEREOTYPICAL "CHARLIE CHAN"-STYLE SPEECH THAT AMERICAN WRITERS GAVE CHINESE CHARACTERS. BOTH ARE TAKEN FROM THE PIDGIN VERSIONS OF LANGUAGE THAT THE CHINESE USED TO SPEAK WHEN TRADING WITH PEOPLE FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES (AS MIYUKI DULY NOTED).

P.113 AKIBA ROMANSU A MANGA BY RENGA KIJIMA IN WHICH AN OTAKU DECIDES TO GIVE UP ALL THINGS OTAKU BECAUSE HER FAVORITE CHARACTER HATES OTAKU.

P.117 OPTIONAL MOST JAPANESE HIGH SCHOOLS HAVE FEW ILLUSIONS ABOUT HOW NECESSARY THEY ARE JUST BEFORE ENTRANCE EXAM SEASON. THEY KEEP HOLDING CLASSES, BUT BOWING TO PRESSURE, THEY ALLOW THE STUDENTS TO SKIP SCHOOL IN ORDER TO ALLOW EXTRA TIME FOR SELF STUDY AND TEST PREPARATIONS.

P.125 BUKURO "BUKURO" IS SHORT FOR THE TOKYO URBAN CENTER OF IKEBUKURO, WHICH HAS BECOME HOME TO FEMALE-ORIENTED DOUJINSHI SELLERS AND HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY FEMALE OTAKU AS THEIR OWN AKIHABARA.

P.126 MAD THE JAPANESE OTAKU CALL FAN-MADE VIDEOS OF ANIME THAT CHANGE THE PLOTS OR MAKE FREE USE OF THE ANIME (SUCH AS ANIME MUSIC VIDEOS) "MAD MOVIES."

P.139 ECONOMIC ECONOMIC EFFECTIVENESS IS A PHRASE THAT HAS TO DO WITH THE SURGE IN POPULARITY OF SOME ITEM AFTER IT IS PUBLICLY USED BY A CELEBRITY.

BACK COVER ONUU-SAN THE JAPANESE WORD FOR A STUFFED TOY IS "NUIGURUMI," AND SO YUI IS MAKING A JOKE COMBINING THE WORD FOR STUFFED TOY AND THE WORD FOR SISTER (ONEE-SAN) INTO A NEW WORD, ONUU-SAN.

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Manga by Kagami Yoshimizu

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